



Welsh Bird Report No. 29: 2015

Edited by Rhion Pritchard

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Cover photo: Fighting Jays by Thomas Winstone.

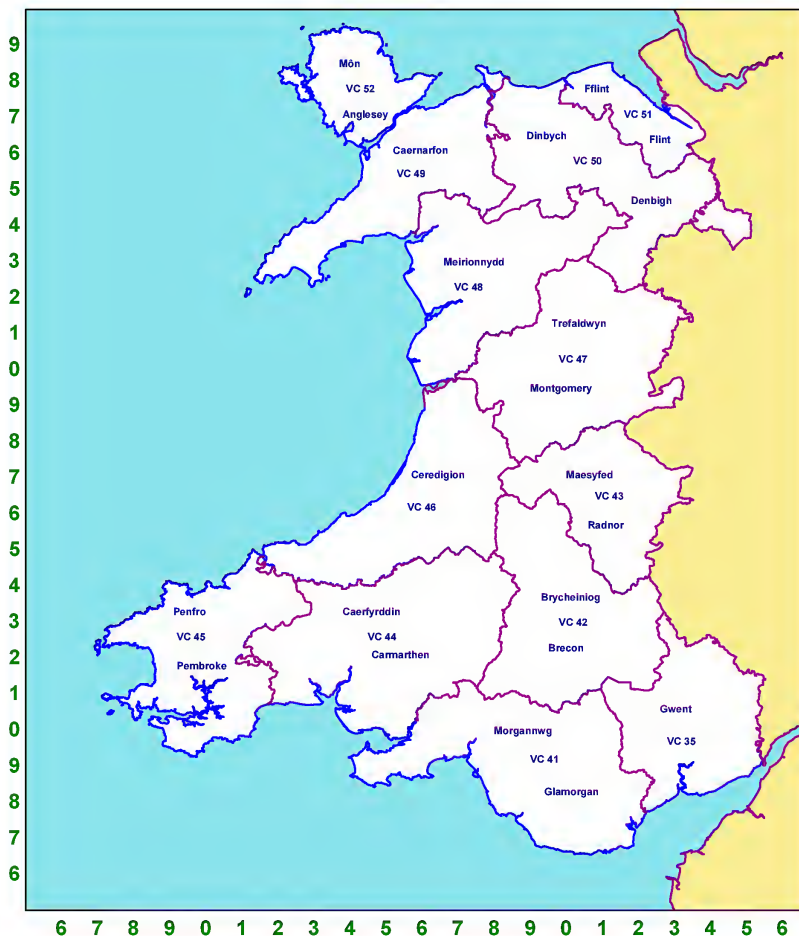
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WELSH BIRD REPORT NO. 29: 2015

Introduction

The map shows the bird recording areas for Wales used in *Birds in Wales*. The Welsh Ornithological Society uses the Watsonian Vice-county system (see the Ray Society, publication No. 146) as the basis of bird recording in Wales. This system largely matches the pre-1974 administrative Counties used by the Society until 1996.

Welsh Vice Counties



A list of the County Recorders is given on the inside back cover, and a list of bird reports on page 220. *Birds in Wales* was published by T. & A.D. Poyser in 1994. This was

updated in 2002 with the WOS publication *Birds in Wales 1992-2000*. Both are now out of print, though *Birds in Wales* is available as a POD and e-version.

TREATMENT OF RECORDS IN THE WELSH BIRD REPORT

The Systematic List covers the calendar year 2015 unless otherwise indicated. Additions and corrections for previous years are recorded in the main List, with the relevant year shown. Species names and order follow the British Ornithologists' Union (BOU) British List as of May 2016. The species included in the main list are those placed by the BOU in Category A (recorded in an apparently natural state at least once since 1st January 1950) or Category C (introduced species which now have a self-sustaining population).

For some species monthly maximum counts for the main sites are tabulated as available. Unless noted as WeBS, these figures are the peak count noted at each site in that month and do not represent coordinated counts on a single day. Some overlap may therefore occur, as birds move between sites. For some wildfowl, the numbers of breeding pairs are assessed by the number of males present during the breeding season.

Records from GLAMORGAN are split into E. GLAMORGAN or GOWER. The area along the Wye, around Glasbury, is entered as RADNOR / BRECON unless the county was specifically identified by the respective county recorders. RSPB Conwy reserve is treated as being in DENBIGH unless the bird concerned was specifically noted to be in the small corner of the reserve which lies in CAERNARFON.

The records for some species are summarised to show the total recorded in each month for each county. Where a bird stays into 2 or more months it is recorded for each month.

The species codes are as follows: (A) *A rare species where all records are quoted*, (B) *Unusual species, where a summary of records is given*, (C) *Commoner species, where a summary of breeding records, large counts or unusual records is given*, (D) *A common species, where there is nothing of note to report*.

The conservation status of each species in Wales is noted as Red, Amber or Green. Red represents the greatest threat, Green the least. These are based on Johnstone, I, and Bladwell, S. 2016. *Birds of Conservation Concern in Wales 3: the population status of birds in Wales. Birds in Wales Vol.13 No 1 pp.3 - 31*. Species where a WeBS High Alert has been issued for Wales are also noted, from Thaxter, C.B., Sansom, A. Thewlis, R.M., Calbrade, N.A, Ross-Smith, V.H., Bailey, S., Mellan, H.J. & Austin, G.E. 2010. *Wetland Bird Survey Alerts 2006/2007: Changes in numbers of wintering waterbirds in the Constituent Countries of the United Kingdom, Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)*. BTO Research Report 556. BTO, Thetford.

SUBMISSION OF RECORDS

It is the policy of the Society NOT TO PUBLISH in this Report any records of species on the list of the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) or on the list of the Welsh Records Panel (WRP) unless that record has been considered and accepted by the BBRC or WRP. Where a species is on one of these lists, this is noted in the comment on status. All records have been accepted by the relevant body unless specifically stated otherwise.

Not all records of species on these lists reach the relevant committee. Records not published here may never have been submitted or be still under consideration. It is helpful if descriptions of BBRC and WRP species are submitted as soon as possible after the sighting. Records submitted too late for a decision in time for publication in the Report for that year will be included in subsequent years if accepted.

Records should be submitted to BBRC through County Recorders or in an electronic form ONLY to secretary@bbrc.org.uk. If it is a written or typed description, please send to the WRP Secretary, Jon Green, who will scan and send it on to BBRC.

WELSH RECORDS PANEL

The Welsh Records Panel considers records of all scarce species in Wales, defined as those occurring five times or fewer per year in Wales on average, but which are not on the BBRC list. The current list is shown below. Only records of these species adjudicated and accepted by the Panel are published in the Welsh Bird Report.

Descriptions can be submitted via County Recorders or direct to the Panel's Secretary. Description forms are available from County Recorders or the Secretary. Any observer submitting a description to the Panel can see their deliberations on the record on request. The Panel has 5 voting members and a non-voting Secretary; membership in 2015 comprised:

Reg Thorpe (Caernarfon, Chair), Mike Powell (E. Glamorgan), Richard Dobbins (Pembrokeshire), Robin Sandham (Caernarfon), Mark Hipkin (Gower), Steve Stansfield (Bardsey). J. Green (non-voting Secretary) (Ceredigion); address: Crud-yr-Awel, Bowls Road, Blaenporth, Cardigan SA43 2AR, email: welshrarebirds@tiscali.co.uk.

In 2015, the full list of species which the Panel considered was as follows:

Bean Goose	Stone-curlew	Subalpine Warbler*
American Wigeon	Kentish Plover	Barred Warbler
Green-winged Teal	American Golden Plover	Greenish Warbler
Ring-necked Duck	Temminck's Stint,	Dusky Warbler
Ferruginous Duck	Pectoral Sandpiper	Radde's Warbler
Surf Scoter	White-rumped Sandpiper	Pallas's Warbler
Lesser Scaup	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Blyth's Reed Warbler
White-billed Diver	Red-necked Phalarope	Red-breasted Flycatcher
Cory's Shearwater	Caspian Gull	Rose-coloured Starling
Great Shearwater	Ring-billed Gull	Bearded Tit
Wilson's Petrel	White-winged Black Tern	Penduline Tit
Night Heron	Alpine Swift	Citrine Wagtail
Cattle Egret	Bee-eater	Short-toed Lark
Purple Heron	Golden Oriole	Shore Lark
White Stork	Red-backed Shrike	Serin
Glossy Ibis	Woodchat Shrike	Common Redpoll
Black Kite	Red-rumped Swallow	Arctic Redpoll
Montagu's Harrier	Olive-backed Pipit	Common Rosefinch

Rough-legged Buzzard	Tawny Pipit	Corn Bunting
White-tailed Eagle	Nightingale	Cirl Bunting
Golden Eagle	Bluethroat	Ortolan Bunting
Red-footed Falcon	Aquatic Warbler	Rustic Bunting
Corncrake	Marsh Warbler	Little Bunting
Spotted Crake	Icterine Warbler	
Crane	Melodious Warbler	

* Subalpine Warbler only when the race cannot be determined. Records assigned to race to BBRC.

Scarce races are considered on the same basis, i.e. all those occurring on average five times or fewer annually). Examples of races considered by the WRP are :

Black Brant Goose – <i>nigricans</i>	Siberian Chiffchaff – <i>tristis</i>
Iceland Gull – <i>kumlieni</i>	Treecreeper – <i>familiaris</i>
Common Guillemot – <i>hyperborea</i>	Coal Tit – <i>ater</i>
Razorbill – <i>torda</i>	Jay – <i>glandarius</i>
Little Auk – <i>polaris</i>	Jackdaw – <i>monedula</i>
Great Spotted Woodpecker – <i>major</i>	Redpolls – <i>islandica / rostrata</i>
Grey-headed Wagtail – <i>thunbergi</i>	Bullfinch – <i>pyrrhula</i>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sections of this report were compiled by Julian Hughes (Wildfowl and Gamebirds), Jon Green (Raptors), Bob Haycock (Skuas to Gulls) and Stephanie Tyler (remainder of Passerines). I would like to thank them for their hard work.

Extra information was supplied by Steve Roberts (Honey-buzzard) and Adrienne Stratford (Cross/Stratford Welsh Chough Project; Chough). The Ringing Report was produced by Peter Howlett, from ringing returns from the various ringing groups in Wales. We would like to thank them all for their records. Thanks also to Kelvin Jones for organising the photographs and to the photographers, who are credited in the captions, and also to Ian Spence for his help with the cover design and layout of photographs. Thanks to Nick Moran (BTO) for preparing the data files showing the number of BirdTrack records of each species in Wales.

I am stepping down as editor of the Welsh Bird Report after this issue. I would like to thank all County Recorders and Report Editors past and present for their help in providing the data and dealing with various queries. Thanks also to Geoff Gibbs for help in posting copies of the Report.

Rhion Pritchard, Editor.

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Weather Summary for Wales in 2015

This summary is based on the Met Office monthly summaries for Wales at www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/summaries/2015/

January

The first half of the month was unsettled and mild, with strong winds in the second week. The second half was colder and more settled, frosty at times with occasional snow. Rainfall totals overall were 119% of average, though eastern parts were quite sunny.

February

The first two weeks were mainly settled and cold, then milder with rain or showers. The mean temperature was 0.5°C below the 1981-2010 average, and the rainfall total only 79% of average.

March

An unsettled start, then a more settled period before rain and increasingly strong winds towards the end of the month. The mean temperature for the month was 0.2°C below the 1981-2010 average. Overall rainfall was 83% of average, and southern parts had 120% of the long-term average sunshine hours for Wales.

April

After a showery start, most of the month was dry and sunny, with some warm days. The last week was cooler and more unsettled with rain or showers. The mean temperature for the month was 0.8°C above average. Rainfall was only 39% of average, with the south-east being particularly dry. Sunshine was above average everywhere, with 142% of the average for Wales; April 2007 was the only sunnier April since 1929

May

A showery start, with strong winds on several days. Generally an unsettled and cool month, with only a few fine days. The mean temperature for the month was 0.8°C below average. Rainfall was above average, particularly around Cardiff and in the north-west, with 158% of the average for Wales overall. Sunshine was below average, especially in the north, with 88% of average for Wales overall.

June

Again an unsettled start, with rain or showers and strong winds, then a more settled period followed by a cooler spell. The end of the month was sunny and very warm. The mean temperature for the month was 0.2°C below average. Rainfall was 69% of the long-term average for Wales overall, and sunshine 129% of the average.

July

This month started fairly hot, but then was mainly cool and unsettled. The mean temperature was 0.8°C below the long-term average. It was wettest in the west with 123% of average rainfall for Wales overall.

August

The first week was unsettled with rain or showers. Although there were some brief settled spells, the weather remained mainly unsettled. The mean temperature was 0.6°C below

the long-term average. Wales had 120% of average rainfall overall, and 89% of average sunshine.

September

A mixture of unsettled spells and some spells of more settled weather. The mean temperature was 1.1°C below the long-term average, the coolest September since 1994. Wales had 62% of average rainfall overall, and 136% of average sunshine.

October

The month was mainly dry and settled, but the last week was mild and changeable. The mean temperature was 0.3°C above the long-term average. Rainfall was only 42% of average, the driest October since 2007.

November

Initially dry and very mild, with a temperature of 22.4°C recorded at Trawsgoed, Ceredigion on the 1st, a new record November temperature for the UK. The rest of the month was mainly mild, changeable and cloudy, with spells of very wet and windy weather. The mean temperature was 2.4°C above the long-term average, the equal-second warmest November in the series. Rainfall was 152% of average, and it was particularly wet across Snowdonia. Sunshine was only 56% of average, making it the dullest November in the series.

December

An exceptionally mild and wet month, with strong winds and heavy rain, resulting in widespread flooding in the north towards the end of the month. No sites in Wales reported air frosts. The mean temperature was 4.7°C above the 1981-2010 long-term average, making it the warmest December since 1910. It was also the wettest, with 202% of average rainfall, and there was only 55% of average sunshine.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

ALARCH DOF

(C) Resident breeding species, now increasing in most counties. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3840
% of BirdTrack lists	22
No of 1km squares	483

Breeding counts (not full surveys except Gower): GWENT: Pairs/nests at 26 sites; E. GLAMORGAN: 18 pairs bred at 12 sites; GOWER: 12 nests, of which 9 successful, fledging 38 young; CARMARTHEN: Three pairs bred (3 sites); PEMBROKE: Bred at two sites, possibly at another four; BRECON: 9 broods at 4 sites and breeding attempts at a further four; CAERNARFON: 8 pairs bred at 7 sites; ANGLESEY: Single pairs at two sites but no breeding recorded; DENBIGH: Single nests at four sites, but broods at only two.

Following an almost uninterrupted increase since the early 1980s, the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales has dropped back significantly since 2010 to turn-of-the-century levels. Systematic counts of at least 40 birds recorded at least once during the year are listed below, the number of sites matching the ten-year average.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
St Brides	8	39	42	10	2	2	3	4	12	14	28	42
R Usk	47	52	39	4						13	36	36
E. GLAMORGAN												
Roath Park L	87	85	80	72			97	100	89	74	64	55
Cardiff Bay	41	35	38	33	71	206	281	218	110	56	41	51
Cosmeston	43	49	56	47	26	20	20	34	55	38	42	49
Knap, Barry	37	28	33	27	18	17	18	28	25	39	43	41
CARMARTHEN												
Drys'n/Cilsan	4	28	37							33	43	34
Sandy WP	23	23	23	31	26	51	64	53	50	44	21	30
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau	41	11	43				54		52	40	36	32
BRECON												
Llangorse	41	36	35	60	67	161	160	174	163	148	105	47
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glaslyn Mar	43	46	32							20	36	
CAERNARFON												
Tr. Lafan	13	12	15		13	70	87	168	51	50	16	10
FLINT												
White Sand	61	52	6	28	30					21	79	63

Counts of 40+ elsewhere: GWENT: 40 on the River Wye at Monmouth in June; RADNOR: A count of 226 on the lower Wye on 8th Jan was the highest ever here; ANGLESEY: 74 on the Cefni estuary in July; DENBIGH/FLINT: 68 on the Clwyd estuary on 6th May.

Mute Swans are largely sedentary, so notable is a colour-ringed bird from Bewdley, Worcestershire (ringed October 2013) in the Menai Strait at Aber Ogwen, CAERNARFON in autumn 2014 and found dead near Menai Bridge, ANGLESEY, in July 2015. The 168 on 10th Aug. at Traeth Lafan, CAERNARFON, is the highest site count since 2004.

BEWICK'S SWAN *Cygnus bewickii*

ALARCH BEWICK

(A) *Irregular winter visitor in small numbers. Wales Red-listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	44
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	12

The lowest number of sites (four) ever reported in the WBR, though a slight increase in the number of birds over 2014's record low. All records are of great importance now since Bewick's Swan has barely registered on Wetland Bird Survey counts for the last decade.

All records were: GWENT: Up to 22 birds around Llandowlais Farm from 1st Jan to 9th Feb; two over Blaenerchan on 9th Feb; up to six at Llangybi Walks between 23rd Nov and 24th Dec; FLINT: Larger numbers than in recent years in the first part of the year, peaking at 46 at Burton Mere Wetlands/Shotwick Fields on 18th Jan; second winter peak was only seven birds at Shotwick on 27th Nov.

WHOOPEE SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

ALARCH Y GOGLEDD

(B) *Regular winter visitor in small numbers to several Welsh counties, notably Anglesey, Caernarfon, Montgomery and Meirionnydd. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	113
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	50

Wetland Bird Survey trends show a long-term decline in numbers visiting Wales, though the rate of decline has slowed in the last decade. Counts from the main wintering sites:

	J	F	M	A		S	O	N	D
CARMARTHEN									
Tywi Valley	44	39	40	15				24	24
CEREDIGION									
Cors Caron	8	7					4		6
MEIRIONNYDD									
Glaslyn Marshes	62	56	66	42			1	8	52
ANGLESEY									
Malltraeth Marsh	5	4	4	1			4	1	18
FLINT									
Dee estuary	50	30	20				3		10

Elsewhere, county totals in each month:

	<i>J</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>		<i>A</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
GWENT	1							2	8	
E. GLAMORGAN								1		
GOWER									1	
CARMARTHEN								1	2	
PEMBROKE	4									
CEREDIGION	7	17							1	7
RADNOR	13								10	
MONTGOMERY	12	20	5						7	
CAERNARFON		4								1
ANGLESEY	6	21		1				17	13	4
DENBIGH		5	19						12	4
FLINT				1						

BEAN GOOSE *Anser fabalis*

GWYDD Y LLAFUR

(A) Rare visitor from the Arctic and colder boreal zones. Range has contracted in Norway and Sweden in recent years. On WRP list.

CEREDIGION: One on the Dyfi estuary, 24th Jan - 15th March; DENBIGH: Two at RSPB Conwy on 17th Jan.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE *Anser brachyrhynchus*

GWYDD DROED-BINC

(A) Regular on the Dee Estuary (Flint), in growing numbers since 2010. Elsewhere, a scarce and irregular winter visitor, chiefly to north Wales. Spring and summer records relate to feral birds, as may some winter and autumn records. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	63
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	27

FLINT: The peak count in the first part of the year was 4,000 birds at Shotwick Fields on 19th Feb, with occasional smaller flocks on the Clwyd estuary. The peak autumn count was 3,000 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 16th Oct. These totals are slightly lower than the previous couple of years.

Away from the Dee, county totals in each month:

	<i>J</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>		<i>A</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
CARMARTHEN										1
PEMBROKE							1			
CEREDIGION		10					6			
MEIRIONNYDD			1							
CAERNARFON		1						1		
ANGLESEY		121		1				65		
DENBIGH		2								

Single birds recorded in GOWER on 15th April and 23rd and 27th Dec were presumed to be of feral origin.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons*

GWYDD DALCEN-WEN

(B) Scarce winter visitor; Ceredigion supports the only regular flock of *flavirostris*. Rare elsewhere, though hard weather can result in increases in *albifrons* from the east. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	44
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	22

Greenland White-fronts (*flavirostris*)

There is a long-term decline in this race, with a flyway population of just 22,000 birds. Low breeding productivity is a fundamental problem but Wales is now the only country within its regular home range where their hunting is legal. Wales' sole regular wintering population (on the Dyfi) held a few more birds than in 2014 but remains desperately small. There were more records from other parts of Wales this year, with a flock on Anglesey – a previous stronghold – in both Winter periods. Records were: CEREDIGION: The flock on the Dyfi estuary peaked at 29 birds until 23rd Jan, last seen on 22nd Feb; three at Aberystwyth on 16th Nov, then 19 on the Dyfi on 1st Dec; PEMBROKE: 15 at Marloes on 15th Nov; BRECON: One, associating with Canada Geese, at Dderw Pool 23rd Jan - 8th Feb; CAERNARFON: One in Llandudno, 31st Oct-1st Nov; ANGLESEY: 17 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh from 22nd Jan to 10th March and up to 23 there between 20th Nov and 11th Dec; two near Valley on 22nd-24th Nov; DENBIGH: Five in Trefnant/Bodfari area from 11th Feb to 18th March; FLINT: One at various sites in the upper Dee estuary from 12th Feb to 5th March.

European White-fronts (*albifrons*):

MONTGOMERY: Two at Dolydd Hafren on 15th-29th March; FLINT: One at Shotwick Fields on 29th Jan and two at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 27th Feb.

Records not sub-specifically reported: PEMBROKE: One on Skomer and around Marloes, 9th-21st May; CAERNARFON: One at Foryd on 3rd Oct.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

GWYDD WYLLT

(C) Most records relate to feral birds, mainly in the north, but increasing farther south.

No of BirdTrack records	1220
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	273

Numbers counted by the Wetland Bird Survey have fallen markedly in Wales since 2004/05. Greylag Goose remains a fairly scarce breeding species; where do all those wintering birds go? Greylag Geese appear to be more migratory in Wales than we realise.

Breeding was recorded as follows: GWENT: Single brood at two sites, and 13 young from an unknown number of nests at Llanwern steelworks; E. GLAMORGAN: One pair bred at Tirfounder Fields; CARMARTHEN: 11 broods at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: Probably bred at Llawhaden; BRECON: Broods at Dolymynach Res.; CAERNARFON: Pair at Morfa Madryn; ANGLESEY: Ten broods from three sites. DENBIGH: Single brood at Llyn Brenig.

The number of counts over 100 (below) was slightly above the 10-year average.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GOWER												
Staffal Haegr	50		2	1	2			34	132	125		
U Loughor		29	11	8			28		3	134		
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	95	84	52	38	57	86	91	73	100	160	134	60
Cilsan Br	46	34	114	6						155	234	184
Dinefwr	130								142	55	4	66
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	12	72	31		2	11	1	10	752	91	8	1
FLINT												
Clwyd est.	250	46	14	2	25			400	450	360	300	

Counts of 100+ elsewhere: PEMBROKE: 125 at Landshipping on 1st and 3rd Nov; CEREDIGION: 170 at Llyn Fanod on 13th Sept; CAERNARFON: 100 at Glan Faenol on 16th Dec; ANGLESEY: 250 at Llyn Padrig on 14th Feb; 130 at Llanfachraeth on 20th Feb; 170 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 16th Aug; 135+ over Cefni estuary on 30th Aug; 100+ at Rhosneigr on 3rd June; DENBIGH: 136 at Llewenni Hall, Bodfari, on 11th Feb, 400+ at Llandyrnog on 14th Feb, 232 at Llyn Brenig on 30th June, 100+ at Fenn's Moss on 2nd Oct and 100+ at Ridleywood on 31st Dec; FLINT: 450 on the Clwyd estuary in autumn.

GREATER CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

GWYDD CANADA

(C) A locally common and increasing feral breeding resident in most counties.

No of BirdTrack records	3466
% of BirdTrack lists	20
No of 1km squares	569

Breeding records, presumed under-recorded: GWENT: 17 pairs bred at 9 sites; E. GLAMORGAN: 10 pairs bred at 9 sites; GOWER: 10 broods at five sites; PEMBROKE: Bred at one site, possibly at a second; BRECON: 7 nests/broods at six sites, plus 46 goslings from unknown number of pairs at Llangorse Lake; MEIRIONNYDD: 30 pairs at 10 sites, though no goslings reported; CAERNARFON: Bred at four sites; DENBIGH: 20 pairs at two sites; FLINT: Bred at four sites.

Following a huge increase in the 1990s, the Welsh population, measured by the Wetland Bird Survey, has stabilised in the last decade. The number of sites holding more than 100 birds during the year has trebled in 10 years, and counts of 300+ (below) fell back slightly from 2014's record of 26.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Newport Wet	137	127	85	166	186	60	200	400	291	111	139	125
E GLAMORGAN												
Ogmore Est	241	19	30	9	30	10	3	520	630	152	188	131
CARMARTHEN												
D'slwyn/Cil	513	276	97	13						73	380	275
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau	28	44	16				620			343	4	150
PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION												
Teifi Est.	69	158	21				350		654	78	85	165
CEREDIGION												
Ynys-hir	991						1360	1320		1870	1640	788
BRECON												
Llangorse	300	240	133	75	60	465	500	238	300	225	169	413
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glas/Dwryd	557	186	100					241	187	606	273	753
Glaslyn Marsh			500							77		
Mawddach		155	141						392	145		312
DENBIGH												
RSPB Con	73	150	12	42	27	334	101	6	1			4
FLINT												
Clwyd est.	35	100		30	26		69	493		65	2	16
Connah's Q	6	301		162	20	20	90	30	3	40		
Oakenholt	700	5	40	20	21	10	200	330	50	1500	2600	
White Sands	1	300		1	4	3	245	200		600		72

Counts of 300+ elsewhere: GOWER: 300 on Neath River Saltings on 27th Sept; CARMARTHEN: 300 at Dinefwr Ponds in Jan; PEMBROKE: 300 on the Teifi on 23rd Aug and at Sprinkle Pill on 29th Aug; 1,350 at Newport on 21st Sept. and 18th Oct; MONTGOMERY: 500 at Dolydd Hafren on 8th Feb and 600 there on 22nd Nov and 300 on the Upper Dyfi on 11th Feb; DENBIGH: 450+ at Fenn's Moss on 2nd Oct.

BARNACLE GOOSE *Branta leucopsis*

GWYDD WYRAN

(C) A regular winter visitor in recent years to the Dyfi Estuary with smaller numbers at other sites, most probably from the feral population. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	75
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	27

Breeding: BRECON: Two nests on the Crannog, Llangorse.

The peak number wintering on the Dyfi, a population which breeds in Cumbria, was slightly lower than in 2014. Approximate monthly totals for each county are tabulated:

	<i>J</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
GWENT					1			5		2		
E. GLAMORGAN	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
CARMARTHEN	1	1										
PEMBROKE									100	1		
CEREDIGION												
Ynys-hir*										321	312	298
Teifi/Cardigan Isl	92	92						70				33
BRECON												
Llangorse			3	6	4	10		22				
MONTGOMERY									6		170*	
MEIRIONNYDD	2		2						2			1
CAERNARFON										1		
ANGLESEY												
Llyn Traffwll			P	P					P	3	8	
Other						5		11			9	
DENBIGH						2	2					
FLINT	1	1	1					1	3	3	8	8

*flock also recorded in the upper estuary, MONTGOMERY.

BRENT GOOSE *Branta bernicla*

GWYDD DDU

(B) A regular wintering population is found in the Burry Inlet and on Anglesey. Elsewhere, small numbers are recorded in winter and on passage. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	260
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	120

Numbers of the dark-breasted *bernicla* population, monitored by the Wetland Bird Survey, have made a small recovery following a decade of decline, though the peak count in the Burry Inlet has been low in two of the last three Winters; numbers of light-breasted *hrota* have stabilised after a decade of growth.

Monthly max. of *bernicla* (dark-breasted) at the main sites were:

	J	F	M	A		S	O	N	D
GOWER									
Whiteford	276	409	137	50		39	220	389	200
Weobley	495	940	563	56		58	342	468	498
Llanrhidian	280	354	770	196		2	212	458	350
Wernffrwd	353	620	310	103		16	68	154	154
Penclawdd	569	69	270					54	17
CARMARTHEN									
Penclacwydd	17		20				15	80	35
Burry Port	50	350	49					195	100
Tywi	57	30	17						

Monthly max. of *hrota* (light-breasted) at the main sites were:

	J	F	M	A	M	S	O	N	D
CAERNARFON									
Foryd	84	80	220	14		5	270		
Traeth Lafan	38	18	35				8	17	16
ANGLESEY									
Beddmanarch Bay	205	185		180		8	136	257	205
Cymyran Est.		23	35	14					9
Alaw estuary	155		205			11			

Approximate monthly totals of both subspecies, excluding the above, are tabulated:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<i>bernicle</i>	87	130	562	60	1	2			27	24	300	308
<i>hrota</i>	97	435	234	30	21				16	189	327	135
race unknown	28			1						5	8	2

EGYPTIAN GOOSE *Alopochen aegyptiacus*

(A) *Feral*.

GWYDD YR AIFFT

No of BirdTrack records	44
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	13

Despite the increase in numbers and range in England, records in Wales remain exactly on the ten-year average. GWENT: One at Peterstone Wentlooge on 6th and 29th Dec presumed same as at Kenfig, E. Glamorgan; E. GLAMORGAN: Two at Dare Valley CP on 6th-22nd Jan and 3rd Dec, one at Cosmeston CP and Ogmre est. on 8th April to 20th May, possibly same at Roath Park Lake on 15th June and Cardiff Bay on 24th June; one at Cosmeston CP on 30th Nov. and at Kenfig Pool on 10th and 13th Dec; CARMARTHEN: One at Penclacwydd on 15th-26th April and again on 25th May; FLINT: Two at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 12th April, then at Connah's Quay NR on 13th.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna***HWYADEN YR EITHIN**

(C) A locally common breeding resident in coastal areas, but rare passage migrant to inland counties. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2666
% of BirdTrack lists	15
No of 1km squares	369

Breeding season: GWENT: Five broods at three sites; E. GLAMORGAN: Single pairs bred at two sites; GOWER: Single broods at 3 sites (cf. 20 pairs in 2014); CARMARTHEN: 13 broods at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: Bred at five sites; MONTGOMERY: Single broods at two sites; MEIRIONNYDD: 16 pairs at six sites but only one brood reported; CAERNARFON: 9 broods at four sites, but believed to be very under-recorded; ANGLESEY: 6 broods at Cemlyn lagoon; DENBIGH: Brood at Kinnel Bay; FLINT: Single broods at two sites.

The number of sites holding large flocks (50 or 100 birds) has doubled in the last 10 years, and is now at its highest since the Welsh Bird Report began. Sites holding 100+ birds:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Peterstone Gt Whf	25	60	203	32		40		3	33	150		
Peterstone Pill	43	90	131	137	54	32	54	105	30	79	104	137
St Brides	20	19	24	12	50	8	10	114	16	13	149	29
Newport Wetlands	106	103	137	123	127	110	203	229	192	132	72	46
Undy	102	234	264	221	105	266	89	29	187	125	46	23
E GLAMORGAN												
Rhymney est	46	153	75	40	20		5	4		245	200	100
Cardiff foreshore	14	30	2				2		7	158	40	1
GOWER												
Whiteford	192	188	97	220	9	11				12	66	162
Weobley	345	201	134	72	8	2	13		12	40	168	258
Llanrhidian	112	275	350	72	41	34	69		2	67	175	215
Penclawdd	166	139	78	88	31	20	4	9	24	108	147	85
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	146	171	183	172	135	143	8		42	33	187	139
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau	286	422	219				8		9	19	60	181
CEREDIGION												
Dyfi Est.	277			67			15	9		95	255	242
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glaslyn/Dwryrd	115	69	87	27	20	11	58	11	16	34	3	87
Glaslyn Marshes	105	76	29						10	4		23
CAERNARFON												
Y Foryd	144	192	230	75	19	11	27	12	6	21	2	24
Traeth Lafan	412	338	329	65	14	10	6	23	12	56	12	404

DENBIGH												
RSPB Conwy	10	43	37	118	180	37	20	3		1		1
FLINT												
Dee - Point of Ayr	53	250	52	48	75	130	115	130	1200	1200	750	320
Dee - Flint	12	27	60			72	85	35	250	185	70	86
Dee - Oakenholt	200	50	30	200	100	1860	1200	120	200	120	86	100
Dee – White Sands	235	8	160	197	89	132		19	40		13	39

Counts of 100+ elsewhere: GOWER: 220 between Wernffrd and Salthouse Point on 15th Dec; CARMARTHEN: 115 on the Gwendraeth est in June; ANGLESEY: 162 in Red Wharf Bay on 3rd Jan; 180 on the Cefni est in late Nov; DENBIGH: 220 at Kinmel Bay on 9th March; FLINT: 157 on the River Clwyd at Rhuddlan.

MANDARIN DUCK *Aix galericulata*

HWYADEN GRIBOG

(B) Scarce, but increasing, breeding resident.

No of BirdTrack records	102
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	53

The absence of records from Radnor (15-20 pairs in 2014), of confirmed breeding records from Montgomery and the sheer number reported from eastern Denbighshire resulting in only summary information, is making it hard to track the expansion of Mandarins in Wales. 26+ broods is the highest ever recorded, but greatly under-represents a species that will breed along well-vegetated river banks that are hard to monitor. Breeding pairs: GWENT: Estimated that 20 to 25 pairs bred on the Usk, Wye, Monnow and Trothy though only four broods confirmed; BRECON: Two pairs present on the Wye; MONTGOMERY: No records received, but assumed to have bred; MEIRIONNYDD: Probably bred at one site, but no broods reported; DENBIGH: Five broods at four locations.

Other records were:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT	43	12	11							27	5	5
GOWER									1	1		
CARMARTHEN				2								
PEMBROKE										1		
BRECON	4	2	2	2	2	2			2	1	1	1
MONTGOMERY	present at Lake Vyrnwy and Llanfechain during the breeding season											
MEIRIONNYDD	2		11	10		1				10		
CAERNARFON					5			5				
DENBIGH	"65 records from 25 10-km squares, mostly in the middle Dee Valley Rhewl - Chirk"											
FLINT					2							

WIGEON *Anas penelope*

CHWIIWELL

(C) Common passage migrant and locally abundant winter visitor, chiefly to coastal counties. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1680
% of BirdTrack lists	9
No of 1km squares	272

Wigeon numbers wintering in Wales have returned to the 30-year average following an increase in the middle of the last decade (Wetland Bird Survey). The number of counts of 300+ birds recorded at least once during the year (below) is stable, though the number of flocks containing over 1,000 birds was the highest yet.

	J	F	M	A	M	Jl	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT											
Nedern Wetland	450	317								293	430
Peterstone Pill	350	210	145	3			1	30	148	130	202
Newport Wet	999	1174	409	10	3	3	35	178	469	1486	1490
Undy	53	112	75					251	680	294	119
Mathern/Black R	135	168	42					28	67	320	360
GOWER											
Whiteford	320	10					2	300	1000	950	220
Weobley								15	720	400	
Penclawdd	126	18	21				5	57	88	576	45
CARMARTHEN											
Penclawwydd	211	278	228	19	2		20	154	310	200	270
PEMBROKE											
Cleddau	710	635	147					929	3035	5758	4579
CEREDIGION											
Dyfi Est.	1859								997	1754	1040
BRECON											
Llangorse Lake	62	185	116	50				3	45	130	335
MEIRIONNYDD											
Broadwater	322	138	139					10	250	46	
Glaslyn/Dwyrhyd	796	527	380					342	887	150	668
Mawddach	347	85	65					22	24		242
CAERNARFON											
Porthmadog	450			5				38	14		
Traeth Lafan	776	1065	735	10	1		12	562	1097	880	1115
Foryd	670	400	190					580	3020	1600	960
FLINT											
Point of Ayr	616	750	411						32		200
Connah's Quay	397	645	588	1	1	1			150	3	52
RSPB Oakenholt	300	200	100	80			3		54		200

Counts of 300+ elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 300 at Dinefwr Ponds in Jan; PEMBROKE: 400 at Kilpaison on 8th Feb, 4,642 at Pembroke River on 19th Nov, 350 at Carew River on 22nd Nov; ANGLESEY: 2,000 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 8th Dec, 1,046 on Inland Sea on 18th Oct; DENBIGH: 300 at Ridleywood on 31st Dec; FLINT: 500 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 18th Jan, 511 at Gwespyr on 8th Feb; 5,000 near Flint on 4th Nov and 1,700 at Bagillt on 19th Dec.

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

HWYADEN LWYD

(C) Regular breeding bird in small numbers on Anglesey, Carmarthen and sporadically elsewhere. A regular winter visitor to most counties in small numbers. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1257
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	133

Breeding season: GOWER: 4+ pairs bred at Staffal Haegr; CARMARTHEN: 9 broods at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: Pairs at two locations, but breeding not confirmed; CAERNARFON: One pair at Afon Wen Pools on 11th April; ANGLESEY: 5 pairs at RSPB Valley Wetlands in April and a pair at Cemlyn, but no broods recorded. Birdwatchers are urged to report all breeding season records to their county recorder.

As elsewhere in the UK, wintering Gadwall in Wales increased markedly since the late 1980s, but few sites hold large numbers (WeBS Alerts, BTO/JNCC/RSPB). Monthly max. (>20) at the main sites below, a record number.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Llanwrn steelwks	27	29	19	16	20	31	15	3	8	19	29	13
Newport Wet	75	122	77	25	23	8	2	19	42	87	111	70
E GLAMORGAN												
Kenfig Pool	16	19	15	11	4			4	6	6	25	21
GOWER												
Staffal Haegr	45	37	23	24	42	49	25	29	33	16	20	14
Oxwich Lake	54	30	12	11	4				5	18	21	22
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	38	47	43	36	38	58	20	41	122	71	186	99
Ashpits Pond	40		33		6						10	22
BRECON												
Llangorse Lake	3	18	6	2	5				9	10	15	33
FLINT												
Shotton Mill	70	41	33	44	47	34	26		10	5	41	62

Counts of 20+ elsewhere: PEMBROKE: 33 at Bosherton on 16th Jan, 23 at Marloes Mere in Feb, 25 at South Hook Pools in Dec; CARMARTHEN: 20 at Penrhyngwyn Pond on 30th Aug, 33 at Delta Lakes on 14th Sept; ANGLESEY: 29 on Inland Sea on 3rd Feb, 100 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 8th Dec; FLINT: 20 at Shotwick Fields on 25th Jan, 20 at

Connah's Quay NR on 3rd April and 25 at Border Pool on 30th May.

TEAL *Anas crecca*

CORHWYADEN

(C) Small numbers breed in most counties, otherwise a widespread and abundant winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2584
% of BirdTrack lists	14
No of 1km squares	374

No confirmed breeding records this year, but no information received from Radnor, the stronghold in Wales. BRECON: Possibly bred at two sites; MEIRIONNYDD: Pairs at five potential sites, but no broods reported.

Wintering Teal numbers recorded by WeBS have been fairly stable since the late 1980s, though in 2015 the number of flocks of 1,000+ birds reported to county recorders was the highest ever. Counts of 300+ birds recorded at least once during the year shown in table:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Newport Wetlids	813	433	496	80	2	6	13	260	200	493	706	1063
GOWER												
Whiteford	320	225	34						24	110	870	120
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau	2359	2066	599						114	442	928	1454
CEREDIGION												
Dyfi est.	876						6	37		899	746	1063
Teifi est.	373	187	59						60	31	62	75
Cors Caron	410	420	237									
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glaslyn/Dwryd	320	223	94						94	235	38	100
DENBIGH												
RSPB Conwy	142	80	45	23	5	3	8	16	314	346	110	43
FLINT												
Connah's Quay	69	52	40	9			3	6	1076	2321	800	63
RSPB Oakenholt	100	60	20	40				30	600	6000	130	200

Counts of 300+ elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 300 at Pembrey Burrows on 23rd Dec; PEMBROKE: 373 at Teifi Marshes in Jan, 300 at Marloes Mere on 7th Nov; ANGLESEY: 320 on Mitigation Pool, Inland Sea, on 9th Oct, 2,000 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 8th Dec; FLINT: 400 at Hawarden Bridge, Shotton, on 15th Nov and 600 at Flint on 2nd Dec.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL *Anas carolinensis*

CORHWYADEN ASGELL-WERDD

(A) *Scarce visitor from North America, 50 records in Wales. On WRP list.*

PEMBROKE: A male at Hook on 21st Feb is presumed to be a returning individual;
 CAERNARFON: A male at Afon Seiont at Caernarfon/Foryd from 22nd Feb. to 3rd March.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

HWYADEN WYLLT

(C) *Common and widespread breeding resident, abundant passage migrant and winter visitor to all counties. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	6898
% of BirdTrack lists	41
No of 1km squares	1082

Breeding season, under-recorded: GWENT: 28 broods (cf. 63 in 2014); E. GLAMORGAN: Bred at 26 sites; GOWER: Bred at 27 sites; CARMARTHEN: 38+ broods at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: Bred at 'a number of sites'; BRECON: Pairs on many farm, quarry and upland pools and the Brecon Canal; MEIRIONNYDD: 13 pairs at 10 sites; ANGLESEY: Bred at Cemlyn but not reported from other sites; DENBIGH: Bred at 12 sites; FLINT: Bred at 10 sites.

The long-term decline in wintering Mallards in Britain has been well-reported, and the index for Wales has been falling since the early 1990s, now returning to levels not seen since the late 1960s. Counts of 200+ birds recorded at least once during the year:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Newport Wetl	240	116	80	61	87	165	195	154	194	149	83	101
Peterstone P	78	80	32	36	47	174	77	220	93	130	41	50
Nedern Wetl	149	217	82	88	66					103	177	179
E GLAMORGAN												
Roath Park L	94	113	66	39			181	255	235	174	143	148
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	103	83	44	97	71	76	11	131	138	440	331	482
Taf												
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau	314	172	68				280		133	117	268	209
CEREDIGION												
Dyfi Est.	175			2			142	117		234	232	171
Cors Caron	323	257	167									
BRECON												
Ffordd Fawr	50	52	20						350	170	190	120
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glas/Dwyrdd	84	71	30	62	140	400	150	250	711	200	47	56

CAERNARFON												
Y Foryd	80	40	28	23	50	70	110	120	160	170	46	16
Traeth Lafan	197	256	235	70	30	51	164	212	326	288	229	332
FLINT												
Oakenholt Msh		49		5	7	530	450	200	30	150	45	40
Connah's Quay	23	35	14	20	18	320	1289	2115	30	30	7	37

Counts of 200+ elsewhere: MONTGOMERY: 200+ at Dolydd Hafren on 4th and 18th Jan and 6th Dec; ANGLESEY: 400+ on the Cefni est on 23rd July; FLINT: 207 on the Clwyd estuary at Rhuddlan on 17th Oct, 350 at Flint on 4th Nov.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

HWYADEN LOSTFAIN

(B) *Occasional passage migrant and locally abundant winter visitor to some counties, but scarce inland. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	510
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	109

There have been significant declines on the Burry Inlet and Dee Estuary SPAs, both notified for their wintering Pintails, in the last decade but there was a welcome increase in numbers on the Burry Inlet in winter 2014/15 and on the Dee in 2015/16. These are the two most important sites in Britain for Pintails (WeBS alerts, BTO/JNCC/RSPB). Sites holding 80+ birds shown below.

	J	F	M	A	M		A	S	O	N	D
GWENT											
Peterstone Wentl	145	149	57	20				40	80	129	94
E. GLAMORGAN											
Cardiff heliport	108	93	31						10		
Rhymney est	166	37	22							180	119
GOWER											
Whiteford	340	24						225	280	360	64
Weobley	1120	410						38	870	260	2
Llanrhidian	1500	184	760							730	590
Wernffrwd	499	600	4					34		324	571
Penclawdd	398	858	50					3	12	1	554
CARMARTHEN											
Penclacwydd	350	2	17	2				6	21	132	400
CEREDIGION											
Dyfi est.	176								147	154	226
MEIRIONNYDD											
Glaslyn/Dwryrd	214	184	103	4				175	464*	264	551
CAERNARFON											

Foryd	140	70	30	2				8	110	70	40
Traeth Lafan	80	127	6	8	1		11	66	114	42	99
FLINT											
Point of Ayr	120	130	2					20	12	170	162
Oakenholt Msh		60		180				1750	5000		
White Sands				43					5000		

*county record.

Counts of 80+ elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 82 on the Gwendraeth est in Jan.; ANGLESEY: Up to 230 at Malltraeth Cob in Jan-Feb and 170 in Nov; DENBIGH: 100 at Ridleywood on 31st Dec; FLINT: 5,000 at Connah's Quay NR on 27th Oct and 4,000 at Bagillt on 4th Nov.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

HWYADEN ADDFAIN

(A) Recorded in small numbers on passage. There have been only five confirmed Welsh breeding attempts and only one since 1991. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	120
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	38

Records are summarised here rather than listed individually owing to an increase: the number of birds recorded in 2015 (83) is more than double the 10-year average.

	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
GWENT		14	2						
E GLAMORGAN	3	1	2						
GOWER	2	1							
CARMARTHEN		6	1	1		1	3	2	
PEMBROKE		3	1		1	1	1		1
CEREDIGION	1		2			1			
BRECON			1						
MONTGOMERY		2						1	1
MEIRIONNYDD		1					3		
CAERNARFON		2					1		
ANGLESEY		4	3	1			2		
FLINT		1	6						

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

HWYADEN LYDANBIG

(C) Locally common winter visitor and passage migrant. Breeds in small, but increasing, numbers. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1011
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	135

Eight, possibly 10 nests, is the highest yet recorded by the Welsh Bird Report: GWENT: Two nests at Newport Goldcliff Lagoons; GOWER: Two broods at Staffal Haegr; PEMBROKE: At least two pairs nested unsuccessfully on Skomer and a pair may have bred at Marloes Mere; BRECON: Possible breeding attempt at Llangorse Lake; ANGLESEY: Single broods at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh and RSPB Valley Wetlands.

Counts of 50+ at least once during the year:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Peterstone Pill	20	13	1		1			17	36	48	59	18
Newport Wetlands	167	109	150	35	16	12	27	30	126	209	184	188
Nedern Wetland	53	25	28	21							6	37
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	18	16	17	28		2	4	7	50	94	43	23

Counts of 50+ elsewhere: GOWER: 60 at Wernffrwd on 17th Oct, 398 at Salthouse Point/Pill on 30th Nov, 350 on Upper Lougher on 2nd Dec; ANGLESEY: 100 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 8th Dec; FLINT: 100 at Shotton steelworks on 5th Oct and 82 at Connah's Quay NR on 11th Dec.

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Netta rufina*

HWYADEN GRIBGOCH

(A) *Naturalised breeding species in England, with at least 500 birds in Cotswold Water Park, Gloucestershire, but scarce in Wales, with an average two records per year.*

No of BirdTrack records	10
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	1

E. GLAMORGAN: A male at Llanishen Res on 30th Aug - 20th Dec.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

HWYADEN BENGGOCH

(C) *Resident breeding species in small numbers in several counties, otherwise a declining winter visitor, chiefly to southern coastal counties and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	926
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	84

Breeding season: GWENT: Three broods at Newport Wetland Uskmouth. CARMARTHEN: Six broods at Penclacwydd. No records received from Anglesey, usually the species' stronghold in Wales.

Wintering Pochard numbers have fallen dramatically in recent decades, down 90% since the late 1960s (Wetland Bird Survey). In 2015, the IUCN 'upgraded' Pochard to Vulnerable

status in light of new information about the scale of the decline across its range. Monthly max. (20+ birds) at just eight sites, the lowest number ever.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Newport	34	29	22	16	7	1	2	3	1		7	1
Ynysfro Res.	34	1	1						2	3	5	3
E. GLAMORGAN												
Llanish/Lisv Res.	33	44	6			3	6	5	8	7	4	14
Cosmeston CP	55	78	40	2						4	9	6
Kenfig Pool	1	1	1	1						1	2	40
GOWER												
Eglwys Nunydd	163	164	P					P	14		88	72

Counts of 20+ elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 21 at Penclacwydd in Oct and 21 at Delta Lakes on 7th Nov. In RADNOR, a male at Llandrindod Lake on 3rd -8th June was the only record all year.

RING-NECKED DUCK *Aythya collaris*

HWYADEN DORCHOG

(A) Breeds in North America, winters south to Costa Rica. On WRP list.

E.GLAMORGAN: A 1st winter male at Cardiff Bay on 20th-31st Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: A male at Llyn Tegid on 8th March.

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

HWYADEN GOPOG

(C) Resident breeding species in small numbers in several Welsh counties and a locally common winter visitor. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2328
% of BirdTrack lists	13
No of 1km squares	245

Breeding: GWENT: 8 pairs at six sites; E. GLAMORGAN: 8 pairs bred at seven sites; GOWER: 6 pairs at five sites; CARMARTHEN: 13+ broods at Penclacwydd and one at Sandy WP; CEREDIGION: Two broods at Nant Bwlch yr Arian; CAERNARFON: A pair on Llyn Elsi but no brood seen; ANGLESEY: 3 broods at RSPB Valley Wetlands; DENBIGH: Single broods at two sites; FLINT: Single broods at two sites.

Wintering numbers in Wales have increased in recent years, in contrast to declines in Northern Ireland (WeBS Alerts, BTO/JNCC/RSPB). Sites holding 50+ birds at least once during the year are included below, average for the last decade.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Bryn Bach	70	23			3	4		6				62
Pant-yr-eos	6	6	8	7	2	2	13	18	189	17	21	16
Newport Wetl	38	76	84	71	70	24	12	20	4	24	4	34
Ynysfro Res	75	37	25	11	5	7	24	39	33	51	59	57
E. GLAMORGAN												
Kenfig Pool	35	100	53	28		1		1	1	3	21	104
Llanish/Lisv	77	98	62		8	40	181	187	103	59	19	142
Roath Park L	163	147	86	2			2	4	12	51	156	204
Cardiff Bay	270	275	235	62	27	37	26	9	86	64	82	157
Cosmeston	293	329	100	16	8		7	16	42	48	115	130
GOWER												
Eglwys Nunydd Res	113	5	P					160	97		200	174
CARMARTHEN												
Pendlacwydd	57	68	51	51	46	27	8	3	19	47	52	82
Sandy WP	23	44	37	23	11	12	28	26	21	29	51	28
BRECON												
Llangorse	237	220	119	5					5	189	246	191
FLINT												
Shotwick RR	17	81	4	41	4	4	8	42	57	5	150	4
Shotton Mill	180	109	102	72	62	60	83		33	69	32	62

Counts of 50+ elsewhere: DENBIGH: 55 at Rhos-on-Sea on 16th Aug. FLINT: 66 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 25th Jan.

SCAUP *Aythya marila*

HWYADEN BENDDU

(B) *Scarce and local winter visitor, also recorded on passage. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	142
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	37

Never abundant, Scaup numbers in Wales have returned to 1970s levels, following a marked increase in the 1980s (WeBS Alerts, BTO/JNCC/RSPB), but the decline seems to continue. This year's peak month count of just 8 birds is well below even the 2005-14 average of 43 birds, and for the second consecutive year there was none in the Burry Inlet, which as recently as 1996/97 held over 100 Scaup.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN		1	2								1	1
GOWER			1							1		
CARMARTHEN	1		1	1								
PEMBROKE					1						1	1
CEREDIGION	1								1			
BRECON										1		
RADNOR	1											
MEIRIONNYDD										1	5	4
CAERNARFON	5	5										
ANGLESEY												
Inland Sea			1	1								1
elsewhere		1										
DENBIGH	1							1		1	1	1
FLINT				1								

LESSER SCAUP *Aythya affinis*

HWYADEN BENDDU LEIAF

(A) Rare vagrant from North America, now assessed by the Welsh Records Panel. Six previous records in Wales. On WRP list.

E. GLAMORGAN: Returning male at Cosmeston CP and Cardiff Bay from 2014 to 29th June (and at Llanishen Res. on 8th May), possibly paired with a Tufted Duck; again from 20th Oct to 3rd Nov; GOWER: Female at Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 1st-3rd Nov; BRECON: A male at Llangorse Lake from 7th Oct. 2014 remained to 25th Feb (marked with a nasal saddle in Portugal in 2013, it was subsequently seen at Winterset Res, West Yorkshire, in May 2015 and Loch Leven, Perth & Kinross, in July 2016).

EIDER *Somateria mollissima*

HWYADEN FWYTHBLU

(C) Scarce breeding resident and winter visitor. Wintering numbers fell dramatically in early 1990s and have fluctuated since. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	120
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	59

Breeding season: CAERNARFON: One brood on the Menai Strait.

The WeBS Alerts (BTO/JNCC/RSPB) has issued a High alert for Eiders wintering in Wales, with a 74% decline in the last 25 years, though two of the last five winters have seen better counts. Counts in the Burry Inlet and Broadwater have fallen, but those in the Menai Strait have increased in tandem with the establishment of regular breeding. The monthly max. in the principal wintering sites:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GOWER												
Whiteford	57	61	56	25	19	6		3	8	14	23	25
MEIRIONNYDD												
Aberdysynni	8		4	5	10				25	6		

Other notable records: CAERNARFON: 35 off Morfa Conwy on 9th Feb, 15 off Criccieth on 10th May; ANGLESEY: 45 off Penmon Point/Puffin Island in March and May.

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis*

HWYADEN GYNFFON-HIR

(B) Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant. Rare inland. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	104
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	26

Following three years of higher numbers around Wales, counts dropped back again, with the highest monthly count of 13 birds (in Jan). The long-term outlook is not good, with a 65% decline in the Baltic Sea (since 1992/93) contributing to the species' global status being uprated to Vulnerable.

Summary of records for each county:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN	1	1	1	1		1						
GOWER	1	2	2									
MEIRIONNYDD										1		
CAERNARFON	7	6	2							2		
ANGLESEY	3	3	2	2							1	1
FLINT	1											

COMMON SCOTER *Melanitta nigra*

MOR-HWYADEN DDU

(C) A locally abundant visitor, recorded all year round but mainly during the winter months. The distribution is predominantly coastal, although it is regular in small numbers on inland waters on passage. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	394
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	149

The WeBS Alerts (BTO/JNCC/RSPB) has issued a High alert for Common Scoter wintering in Wales, owing to a 51% decline in the short-term. Carmarthen Bay SPA is probably the most important wintering area in the British Isles for this species, typically holding over 30,000 birds, but cuts in the marine monitoring budget of Natural Resources Wales means that no co-ordinated count has been made of this flock for five years. This means that the Denbighshire coast now has the highest average count in Britain.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GOWER												
Gower coast	254	153	115	100			9	2		16	224	120
CEREDIGION												
off Borth	110	30						5			25	30
CAERNARFON												
Rhos Point	20000	8000	4000	5000			2100	6000	30			
Criccieth/Black Rock	200	720	420	22					30		60	
DENBIGH												
Rhos Point-Towyn	10000	7300	4000	50	4	3	8000				10000	10000

Other notable records: CARMARTHEN: 300 from Telpyn Point on 11th Jan (cf. 4,000 on 19th Jan 2013); PEMBROKE: 600 off Amroth on 1st Feb; 2,354 off Strumble Head, July-Nov (85% males); ANGLESEY: Up to 1,500 in Red Wharf Bay during Feb and a flock of 400 west past Cemlyn Bay on 12th July; CAERNARFON: 1,000 off Llanfairfechan in Jan, 600 off Morfa Conwy in Feb. 5,000 off the Great Orme in March and 2,000 in July are part of the mobile flock shown in the table above (Rhos Point and Towyn).

SURF SCOTER *Melanitta perspicillata*

MOR-HWYADEN YR EWYN

(A) A rare trans-Atlantic visitor to Wales. Around 60 records. On WRP list.

The regular sightings off the north coast in recent winters make it increasingly difficult to maintain an accurate total of the numbers recorded in Wales.

All records: CAERNARFON: Two off Rhos Point on 10th March and one off the Great Orme on 22nd March, part of DENBIGH aggregation; DENBIGH: Up to six males and a female off Old Colwyn/Llanddulas from 2014 to 4th April with at least three possibly up to five in the same area from 2nd Nov. into 2016.

VELVET SCOTER *Melanitta fusca*

MOR-HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD

(A) A scarce and local winter visitor, regular in small numbers to some coastal counties. Occasionally recorded on passage. Rare inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	51
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	15

Decreases around the British coast and the Baltic has led to the international population estimate being revised down by 55%, and the species' listing as Endangered by IUCN/BirdLife International. The total number of birds reported, is the lowest since 2008.

All records: GOWER: Two off Crymlyn Burrows on 24th Nov; PEMBROKE: Three past Strumble Head on 12th Sept; CAERNARFON: Two off Criccieth on 3rd Jan, one at Rhos Point on 31st Jan, five off the Great Orme on 22nd March, three at Aber Ogwen on 8th July (unusual date and location), one off the Little Orme on 25th Nov; ANGLESEY: Up to three

in Red Wharf Bay on 14th-15th Feb and one there on 28th Feb; DENBIGH: Regular off Old Colwyn-Pensarn in both winter periods up to 21st April and from 31st July, peak count 18+ on 7th Feb, though up to seven was more usual.

GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

HWYADEN LYGAD-AUR

(C) Locally common winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	461
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	130

The downward trend that started in the late 1990s continues, with a 33% decline in Wales in the medium term (BTO/JNCC/RSPB) and numbers down to late 1970s level. The number of sites meeting the minimal threshold of 10 birds was below the ten-year average.

Monthly max. counts at the main sites (10+) were:

	J	F	M	A		S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN									
Ogmore Est.	32	34	22					4	19
Kenfig Pool	4	11	15				1	3	
Rhaslas Pond	8	8	10	5					7
GOWER									
Eglwys Nunydd	14	5	P					13	11
BRECON									
Llangorse L.	60	42	49	7			2	62	90
Talybont Res.	3	9	22	7			5	7	3
CAERNARFON									
Traeth Lafan	21	86	30	11				1	17

Counts of 10+ elsewhere: GWENT: Up to 10 on the River Usk between Newbridge and Llanbadoc between 28th Jan and 7th March; CARMARTHEN: 11 at Pendlacwydd in Jan; CEREDIGION: 11 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 10th Jan.; RADNOR: 10 at Dol y Mynach on 14th Jan; MONTGOMERY: 10 on the Upper Dyfi estuary on 16th Jan; MEIRIONNYDD: 12 on Llyn Tegid in Feb; CAERNARFON: 30 off Porthmadog Cob on 12th Oct, 12 at Llyn Nanltle Uchaf in March; ANGLESEY: 31 on Inland Sea on 3rd Feb.

SMEW *Mergus albellus*

LLEIAN WEN

(A) Scarce winter visitor, subject to cold weather influxes from the Continent. Records have declined, qualifying it as a species considered by the Welsh Records Panel from 2017. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	3

All records: CAERNARFON: One at Pwllheli on 19th Jan.; FLINT: One at Sealand and Shotwick Rifle Range on 4th Nov.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

(C) Locally common winter visitor, particularly to the north Wales coast. Small numbers breed, chiefly in the northwest. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	680
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	171

Breeding season (under-recorded): MEIRIONNYDD: 14 pairs at nine sites, but only two broods reported. CAERNARFON: Single broods seen on the Glaslyn and Seiont, with pairs at two other sites; ANGLESEY: A pair on Afon Crigyll and two broods at Cemlyn.

Numbers recorded by WeBS have fallen sharply and the index for both Britain and Wales now lies at low levels not seen since the late-1970s (BTO/JNCC/RSPB). Monthly max. (20+) are shown below.

	J	F	M.	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
CAERNARFON												
Caernarfon Bay	26	49	10	6								
Foryd	4	8	22	5	4	2	2	3	5	5	10	6
Traeth Lafan	8	15	9	7	4	10	64	80	66	35	11	11
DENBIGH												
RSPB Conwy	15	14	20	9	2	3			2		11	6

Counts of 20+ elsewhere: CAERNARFON: 22 off Rhos Point in Jan, 20 at Aber Dwyfor on 20th March; ANGLESEY: 31 on the Cefni at Mallaeth on 18th Jan, 20 off Holyhead Old Quay on 20th Jan; DENBIGH: 21 at Rhos-on-Sea on 19th Jan and 13th Dec, 28 at Kinmel Bay on 29th Nov; FLINT: 28 on the Clwyd estuary near Rhyl on 28th Nov.

GOOSANDER *Mergus merganser*

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

(C) Breeding resident on most Welsh rivers in mid and north Wales, the breeding population slowly expanding. In winter, numbers are augmented by birds dispersing from farther north. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1059
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	358

Despite a fall in the last few years, numbers monitored by WeBS show a long-term increase in Wales (BTO/JNCC/RSPB). Most Goosanders wintering in Wales are thought to be British breeders. Coverage of breeding pairs is far from complete, making it difficult to assess the impact of licences issued by the Welsh Government to shoot Goosanders on some rivers.

Breeding season: GWENT: Three on the Usk, one on the Monnow and one on the Wye; GOWER: Bred on the Tawe (4 broods), Neath (1 brood) and Afan (1 brood) rivers; PEMBROKE: Probably bred on the Teifi; CARMARTHEN: One brood at Cilsan Bridge; BRECON: Bred on the Mellte, and possibly two pairs at Crai Res.; MONTGOMERY: Two nests found at Lake Vyrnwy, and gatherings of juveniles seen at Dolydd Hafren (23 on 19th July) and Llanfyllin (20+ on 29th July); MEIRIONNYDD: 16+ pairs at nine sites, with around 11 broods; CAERNARFON: Pairs recorded at five sites, but only one brood seen.

Monthly max. (20+) shown below:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
The Warrage	23										6	10
BRECON												
Llangorse	16	45	6								4	9
MEIRIONNYDD												
Llyn Tegid	7	5	1	9					26	2	3	
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	4	4	3		12	15	101	144	6	4	5	9

Counts of 20+ elsewhere: PEMBROKE: 29 at Bosherton on 18th and 24th Jan; MONTGOMERY: See breeding season above; MEIRIONNYDD: 36 on Broadwater on 11th July; CAERNARFON: 144 off Bangor Pier on 15th Aug and 107 there on 30th Aug; ANGLESEY: 28 on Llyn Coron on 15th Feb and 12th April; DENBIGH: 20 at Gresford Flash on 16th Jan, 20 at Ridleywood on 31st Dec; FLINT: 21 at Fagl Lane GP on 19th March and 20 on the Clwyd estuary on 27th Aug.

RUDDY DUCK *Oxyura jamaicensis*

HWYADEN GOCH

(B) *Rare breeding species, mostly restricted to a small number on Anglesey by culling; elsewhere a scarce winter visitor.*

The UK Ruddy Duck population is around 30 males and 10 females (March 2015), down from an estimated 4,400 in September 2005 as a result of an eradication programme by Defra, part of an EU-wide project to remove the threat to White-headed Ducks in Europe by 2015. All records were: ANGLESEY: A male on Llyn Penrhyn on 12th-18th April and a female on Llyn Maelog on 10th-11th Aug.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

SOFLIAR

(A) *A scarce and irregular breeding species, irruptive in some years; scarce passage migrant. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	36
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	16

All records, single calling males unless stated: E. GLAMORGAN: Near St. Brides Major on 23rd July, one seen at Cogan on 2nd Sept; CARMARTHEN: Two at Maesybont on 5th June; PEMBROKE: Flushed on Skomer on 11th May, Skokholm on 2nd June, Nolton Cross on 22nd Aug; MONTGOMERY: RSPB Lake Vyrnwy on 9th July; MEIRIONNYDD: Glaslyn Osprey centre on 9th-13th June; CAERNARFON: Aberdaron on 20th April; Porth Meudwy and two on Bardsey on 16th June; ANGLESEY: Llanddaniel Fab on 26th June; DENBIGH: Up to three near Holt during 10th July and 6th Aug; FLINT: Near Broughton on 22nd June and Shotwick Fields on 21st July.

RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE *Alectoris rufa*

PETRISEN GOESGOCH

(D) Populations, in majority of areas where this species is found, now probably maintained by release schemes.

No of BirdTrack records	64
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	49

RED GROUSE *Lagopus lagopus*

GRUGIAR

(B) Breeding resident on heather uplands, declining in most areas. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	66
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	46

Presumed under-recorded. GWENT: Recorded from nine sites, with a post-breeding count of 110 birds on 1st Aug. on The Blorenge, Coity and nearby sites; E. GLAMORGAN: Two at one site on 25th Jan; CARMARTHEN: One site, peak count 8 on 9th Sept; CEREDIGION: Birds seen near Cwmystwyth and Plynlimon; BRECON: Broods on Mynydd Llangatwg and the central Beacons, also present in low densities around Llangyndir Res., Old Brynmawr Res., Black Mountains, Y Gyrn and the Elenydd; MONTGOMERY: Minimum of 210 territories on RSPB Lake Vyrnwy reserve and 65 on adjacent land; MEIRIONNYDD: Multiple records from the Berwyns, Arenigs and Rhinogs, with at least 112 territories recorded during Black Grouse surveys in the Berwyns and Migneint; CAERNARFON: Records from northern Carneddau (max. 9 on 7th Sept.), three at Parc Newydd on 15th Feb, single above Llyn Gwynant on 20th April and 23rd May, one at Moelyci on 23rd May. A survey of the Migneint found eight birds at seven sites; DENBIGH: Counts throughout the year from Ruabon Moor, with maximum count three times that of 2014: 17 on 19th April and 30 on 8th Oct. Smaller numbers in the Berwyns and three records from the Clwydians.

BLACK GROUSE *Tetrao tetrix*

GRUGIAR DDU

(B) Breeding resident on moorlands of north and mid-Wales, recent increase in numbers. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	66
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	22

Lek surveys organised by RSPB Cymru, Natural Resources Wales, Denbighshire County Council and Cofnod found 419 lekking males, up from 328 in 2014, the highest since co-ordinated counts began in 1997 and up a remarkable 68% in just two years. This follows two successive seasons of good weather during the crucial brood-rearing period, and intensive management on Ruabon Moor/Llandegla/Llantysilio DENBIGH, which held 78% of the total. The monitoring area again excluded Llanbryn-mair, MONTGOMERY, owing to access restrictions. Counts of lekking males were: MONTGOMERY: Five at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: 15 in the Migneint; nine on Palé Moor/Syrior; DENBIGH: 9 in Clocaenog Forest, 25 on Moel Famau, 33 in the North Berwyn and 328 on Ruabon Moor/Llandegla Moor/Llantysilio.

Additional records reported to county recorders during breeding season: CEREDIGION: A male in the Nant-y-Moch area on 26th May; MEIRIONNYDD: A female at Nantyr on 13th May and a male at Defaidty, Fron Goch on 28th May; DENBIGH: Four males at Mynydd Hiraethog on 17th Feb; MEIRIONNYDD: 19 birds at five sites outside the breeding season.

GREY PARTRIDGE *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

(B) *Almost extinct as a breeding species in much of Wales. Populations, in majority of areas where this species is found, now probably maintained by release schemes. Wales Red listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	6
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	0

Population maintained by releases. All records: GWENT: Small groups of birds at five inland sites during Sept.-Dec. believed to have been released for shooting; two on Undy foreshore on 14th June likely to be wild-bred; E. GLAMORGAN: Two at Ogmere-by-Sea on 18th March, two at Gileston Farm, Vale of Glamorgan, on 25th May, one at Cardiff Wales Airport on 3rd Sept, three at Cae Bush Farm, near Wick, on 25th Sept, one at Breaksea Point on 16th Nov; FLINT: A pair near Penycloddiau on 13th April, singles at Gwespyr on 21st June and Gronant on 4th Dec.

PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

FFESANT

(D) *A locally common breeding resident, widespread throughout Wales.*

No of BirdTrack records	1912
% of BirdTrack lists	11
No of 1km squares	645

Population in many areas is maintained by releases, but few records included in county reports.

RED-THROATED DIVER *Gavia stellata*

TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH

(B) Winter visitor and passage migrant, regularly recorded off-shore, sometimes in large concentrations. Rare inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	221
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	102

	J	F	M	A	M	Jun	Jul	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN	6	4							1		8	31
CARMARTHEN	4	15	21	9	1				4	3	4	
CEREDIGION												
Borth Bay	1	-	-	1	1	5	54	7	-			
Llansant.-Aberaeron	-	3	29	3	-	-	3	-	3			
Elsewhere	24	13	31	3	1	3		16	3			
MEIRIONNYDD	1	1	2	30	-	-	-	-	2	1	0	1
CAERNARFON												
Caernarfon Bay	33	28	3	162								
Little Orme	3	93	1	54					2	1		1
Rhos Point	84	15	56	56					21	5	20	
Traeth Lafan	23	27	123	8	3					6	2	
ANGLESEY												
Traeth Llugwy	20	45										15
Benllech		12									55	
FLINT				1							1	1

The last record of spring was one at Ynyslas CEREDIGION on 27th May. The first autumn record was off Bardsey CAERNARFON on 25th Aug. There were notable high counts at Breaksea Pt – Gileston E. GLAMORGAN in Dec, including 30 on 13th and 14th and 22 on 29th.

Elsewhere: GOWER: Recorded Jan-April from 13 sites, max 7 at Oxwich Bay on 7th Feb, 9 at nearby Nicholaston Pill on 20th March, 8 south of Mumbles on 8th Jan. In the second winter period, recorded from Oct onwards from 7 sites, max 7 flying west at Port Eynon on 13th Dec; PEMBROKE: Maximum day count for the year was 50 at Amroth on 18th Jan. At Strumble Head a total of 135 birds passed during the whole year, 22 between 8th Jan and 10th March, max. 12 on 10th Feb. A further 113 birds then passed between 4th Sept and 23rd Dec, max. 35 on 11th Dec. A single summer plumaged bird past Skokholm on 22nd Sept was the only record for the year there; ANGLESEY: 20+ off Traeth y Ora on 3rd Jan and 20 off Red Wharf Bay on 15th Feb. 122 past Point Lynas in 3.5 hrs on 21st Nov.

DENBIGH: Maximum recorded each month:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
31	8	20	6							11	58

The highest count was 58 at Rhos-on-Sea on 13th Dec.

BLACK-THROATED DIVER *Gavia arctica*

TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU

(A) Winter visitor and passage migrant, recorded in small numbers annually. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	24
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	17

All records were: E. GLAMORGAN: The only accepted record was of 2 off Sker Pt on 1st Dec; GOWER: One off Aberavon Beach on 27th Oct; CARMARTHEN: A winter plumaged individual at Cefn Sidan on 15th Oct. was the first since 2007; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head a good year with a total of 20 birds recorded max 15 on 11th Dec. Elsewhere, one in the Cleddau est in Jan and single birds recorded at Whitesands / St. David's Head on 3rd & 16th March and off Ramsey on 25th Nov; CEREDIGION: One at Mwnt on 10th Jan and one off Aberystwyth the following day; MEIRIONNYDD: 3 off Aberdysynni on 18th Jan; CAERNARFON: There was one off Llanfairfechan on 2nd April and one off Rhos Point on 25th Nov; ANGLESEY: One off Red Wharf Bay on 28th Feb and two past North Stack on 19th Nov; DENBIGH: One at Llanddulas on 7th Feb and one at Colwyn Bay on 16th Dec.

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER *Gavia immer*

TROCHYDD MAWR

(B) Winter visitor and passage migrant, recorded offshore in small numbers annually. Recorded from inland waters more frequently than other diver species. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	320
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	137

Approx. monthly totals for each county:

	J	F	M	A	M	Jun	Jul	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT											4	
E.GLAMORGAN	1	1		1	2	1					13	6
CARMARTHEN	3	3	1		1							
PEMBROKE excl Strumble		1	5	1	1	1				4	9	2
CEREDIGION	2									1	4+	
MEIRIONNYDD	4	0	0	0							2	7
CAERNARFON												
Caernarfon Bay	21	26	37	87								
Rhos Point	1	1	1	1					3			1
Traeth Lafan	3	4	2	1							1	1
Elsewhere	4	2	2	2					2	2	4	5
ANGLESEY	7	13	4	2	2						16	5
DENBIGH	1	1										5

Elsewhere: GOWER: In the 1st winter period, 33 sightings at 12 locations, max 3 off Whiteford Pt on 4th Jan, last record one at Knab Rock on 1st June. In the second winter period, recorded from 22nd Oct, thereafter 34 sightings Nov-Dec, max 3 at Queen's Dock on 22nd Nov, 3 at Whiteford on 26th, 3 at Burry Inlet on 30th and 3 at Knab Rock/ Bracelet Bay on 1st Dec. PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head a total of 39, max. 23 on 11th Dec.

The last record of the first winter period was one off Ramsey PEMBROKE on 4th – 5th June and the first record of autumn was two off Bardsey CAERNARFON on 15th Sept.. Caernarfon Bay, between Fort Belan and Trefor, is the most important site in Wales for this species, and the count of 87 here on 2nd April makes it of international importance.

Inland records were one at Llys y Fran Reservoir PEMBROKE from 11th Dec until the end of the year, the first record here since 2005; one on Llyn Tegid MEIRIONNYDD in Jan and again in Dec, and one on Llyn Trawsfynydd MEIRIONNYDD in Jan.

FULMAR *Fulmarus glacialis*

ADERYN-DRYCIN Y GRAIG

(C) A numerous species, breeding in most coastal counties. Frequent offshore in most months. The count unit is the apparently occupied site (AOS). Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	702
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	217

Counts were: E. GLAMORGAN: Apart from 6 at Nash Pt on 2nd July, no records to indicate breeding. However, counts on 13th Dec of 30 at Cwm Nash Cliffs and 18 near Nash Pt, mainly birds in pairs on ledges show a continuing interest in traditional sites; GOWER: Bred at Rhossili/ Mewslade, with up to 12 there in breeding season, and one pair at Burry Holm; CARMARTHEN: 12 birds surveying cliffs at Pendine on 11th Feb; PEMBROKE: 85 AOS on Caldey, a small decrease from 2014 but similar to 2013, 11 AOS on St Margaret's Island (no change from 2014), 61 AOS along the Castlemartin peninsula, a decrease from 96 AOS in 2014 and the lowest number since 2008. 584 AOS on Skomer was a 5.04% increase on 2014 and a 23.21% increase in the last 5 years. 179 apparently incubating adults on Skokholm (no change from 2014). 267 AOS on Ramsey was similar to 2014, but productivity was 0.44, nearly double last year's figure. Evidence of breeding was reported from 25 coastal 1km squares; MEIRIONNYDD: One around the Friog cliffs on 26th June; CAERNARFON: 29 AOS on the Great Orme, compared to 18 in 2014, and 9 AOS on the Little Orme, though c.12 pairs were noted at this site on 23rd March. Two AOS on Carreg y Llam, compared to 5 in 2014, 3 AOS on the cliffs around Porth Meudwy and two pairs at Parwyd on 8th April. 31 pairs occupied ledges on the E side of Bardsey, an 82.4% increase on last year, bringing the species back to levels from a decade ago; ANGLESEY: 20 AOS at Puffin Island and 15 AOS at South Stack. 12 on the cliffs near Traeth Lligwy on 20th Dec; DENBIGH: Confirmed breeding at traditional cliff sites at Colwyn Bay and Llanddulas. Of 3 nesting pairs at Llanddulas quarry, one pair was using an old Raven's nest.

Large counts included: E. GLAMORGAN: max 37 past Porthcawl on 1st June; GOWER: 44 off Tutt Head on 6th May; PEMBROKE: Max count of 250 past Strumble Head on 13th Nov.

GREAT SHEARWATER *Puffinus gravis*

ADERYN-DRYGIN MAWR

(A) Scarce autumn passage migrant, on WRP list.

PEMBROKE: Single birds on 8th and 19th July were the only records for the year, the 8th July record being the earliest county record.

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Puffinus griseus*

ADERYN-DRYGIN DU

(B) A fairly common passage migrant to western coastal areas, principally in the period late August to early October. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	25
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	8

Winter records are unusual, but there was one past North Stack ANGLESEY on 28th Jan. This was quite a poor year autumn for this species. PEMBROKE: Off Strumble Head, one on 19th July then a total of 5 in Aug and 10 in Sept. Skokholm had a single bird on 12th Aug and one off Ramsey on 22nd Oct.; CEREDIGION: One off Borth on 11th Sept; CAERNARFON: The only records came from Bardsey, where there was one on 20th Aug, one on 3rd Sept with two on 12th Sept, one on 21st Oct and one on 13th Nov; ANGLESEY: One passed Cemlyn on 31st July.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus*

ADERYN-DRYGIN MANAW

(C) Breeding on Pembrokeshire islands and also in Caernarfon. Large feeding movements and autumn passage are regular off western coasts and even well up into the Bristol Channel. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	292
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	96

Breeding records: CAERNARFON: This was the second year of the three-year census on Bardsey; this year the eastern side of the island was counted. 14,001 burrows were counted, of which 13,222 were apparently occupied. This suggests a 37.6% increase in the population in that area since 2009, when a total of 11,097 burrows were counted and 9,610 were apparently occupied. A sample of 119 burrows was monitored to calculate productivity. A total of 76 burrows fledged chicks, giving a productivity figure of 0.64 chicks per breeding pair, a decrease of 8.6% on last year's productivity.

GWENT: Max counts on 5th July, with 100 off Goldcliff and 433 seen from Peterstone Wentlooge; E. GLAMORGAN: 2,000 at Porthcawl on 1st June; GOWER: Max 2,000 at Rhossili/ Mewslade on 2nd Aug; CARMARTHEN: The best counts were of c.1,000 off Cefn Sidan on 31st July, c.500 off Pembrey Harbour on 1st Aug., c.1,600 off Cefn Sidan on 16th

Aug; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head first record for the year on 10th Jan and last recorded on 20th Nov; CEREDIGION: 2,355 off Aberystwyth on 28th May, 5,000 off Borth on 16th July, 20,000 off Borth on 20th and 22nd Aug and 3,500 at Borth on 11th Sept; RADNOR: One picked up Crossgates on 23rd Sept.
Max counts off Bardsey CAERNARFON were:

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Bardsey	90	836	5457	2496	1584	14623	567	11	2

ANGLESEY: Large counts past South Stack were 3,432 in 2hrs on 29th May, 4,239 in 4hrs on 25th July, 3,623 in 2hrs on 28th July, 3,665 in 2hrs on 29th July, 1,926 in 1hr on 4th Aug and 2,722 in 2hrs on 2nd Sept . 1,100 passed Cemlyn on 3rd Sept. The last record was one past North Stack on 20th Nov.

BALEARIC SHEARWATER *Puffinus mauretanicus* ADERYN-DRYICIN MOR Y CANOLDIR
(C) A fairly common passage migrant to western coastal areas, principally in the period late August to early October. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	59
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	12

Spring records of this species are rare, but there was one past Skomer PEMBROKE on 18th May.

On autumn passage: PEMBROKE: Off Strumble Head, there were 28 in August, 63 in September and 8 in October. One past Skomer on 15th Sept. Skokholm had single birds on 17th July, 27th Aug, 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th Sept with three on 22nd Sept. Two off Ramsey on 22nd Sept; CEREDIGION: Two records of single birds; at Borth on 22nd Aug and at Cwm Tydu on 27th Sept; CAERNARFON: The only records came from Bardsey, where 25 birds were recorded in total, beginning with one on 18th July, then singles on 21st, 23rd and 28th Aug. In Sept there were singles on 5th and 10th, 4 on the 12th, three on the 14th, one on the 19th, 4 on the 20th and singles on 21st and 29th. Two were recorded on 7th Oct, with singles on 9th and 11th, then a late bird on 14th Dec; ANGLESEY: 2 were off Point Lynas on 2nd Sept, 2 here on 6th and one on 15th. 3 flew past Cemlyn on 1st Sept, two here on the 6th, 4 on 7th Sept and one on 20th Sept. 3 were off Bull Bay on 5th Sept and 3 off South Stack on 22nd Sept.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus* PEDRYN DRYICIN
(C) Breeds regularly on several island sites off the west coast, mainly in very small colonies. Skokholm holds the only population over 1,000 pairs. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	39
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	19

Breeding information: PEMBROKE: Probably bred on Grassholm (last census 11 AOB in 2014). 31 new birds ringed plus 8 controls during mist netting session on 7th Aug. 83 caught on Skomer, including 51 retrapped from previous years. Play-back survey on Skomer suggested at least 17 active sites. Confirmed breeder on Ramsey with 8 AOS logged (min 5 in 2014). 6 of the sites were still active in early August (chicks heard in 2). No census on Bishops and Clerks but assumed to have bred (149 AOS in 2010); CAERNARFON: Little change noted in the breeding population, on Bardsey. Several birds ashore in June, and 4 were trapped on the 16th, including two ringed birds. On 21st, three pairs of Storm Petrel wings were discovered on Pen Cristin, predated by the Little Owls nesting there. Two birds calling from rocks at Bae Felen on 3rd June. In August, 15 individuals responding to audio lures were trapped and ringed, including three already ringed elsewhere. On 28th Aug a chick seen and heard calling from a nest at Bae Felen.

Other records were: GWENT: Singles off Goldcliff Point on 6th May and 2nd June; E. GLAMORGAN: Recorded from 6th May to 15th Sept, max 16 at Porthcawl and 6 at Dunraven/Southerndown on 2nd June; GOWER: Singles at Loughor Bridge on 2nd June and Port Eynon on 21st July; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head only five were recorded this year, four in August and a single in September; CEREDIGION: One off Aberystwyth on 2nd June, 7 off Mwnt on 24th July and one at New Quay on 28th July; ANGLESEY: One past Point Lynas on 21st Nov; FLINT: One past Point of Ayr lighthouse on 26th Nov.

LEACH'S PETREL *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

PEDRYN GYNFFON-FFORCHOG

(B) *A scarce autumn visitor, commonest off the north Wales coast. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	29
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	18

Most records this year were in late Nov. GWENT: Two storm-driven birds seen in the Bristol Channel from Goldcliff Point, on 15th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: On 15th Nov, singles off Lavernock Pt and Porthcawl; GOWER: One between Knab Rock and Mumbles Head on 17th Nov; CARMARTHEN: A single bird during stormy weather, at Pwll and Burry Port on 15th Nov was the first since 2009; PEMBROKE: One spring/early summer record, on May 22nd one seen from a boat 30 nautical miles SW of Skomer. At Strumble Head 11 recorded, a single on 21st Oct, 9 on 21st Nov and one on 11th Dec.; CAERNARFON: One past the Little Orme on 2nd Sept, one off Criccieth on 15th Nov, then 11 past Rhos Point and 4 past the Little Orme on 21st Nov; ANGLESEY: 2 past Cemlyn on 9th and 20th Nov and 4 past Point Lynas on 21st Nov; DENBIGH: One at Pensarn on 21st Nov.

GANNET *Morus bassana*

HUGAN

(C) A common bird offshore throughout the year, most plentiful during the extended breeding season, March – October. One major breeding colony on Grassholm, Pembrokeshire. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	713
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	250

Breeding: There were 36,011 AOS on Grassholm, PEMBROKE, down from 39,292 AOS at the last census in 2009. Productivity was 0.63 per pair, down from 0.76 in 2014.

Other records were: GWENT: Max count was 19 past Peterstone Wentlooge on 9th May; E. GLAMORGAN: Max 60 off Porthcawl on 6th May; GOWER: Max 200 off Rhossili/ Mewslade on 19th July; CARMARTHEN: The best counts were all from Cefn Sidan with c.30 on 7th May, 32 on 12th Sept. and 22 on 15th Oct.; CEREDIGION: Max counts 515 at Aberaeron on 26th Aug and 300 at Borth on 11th Sept; MEIRIONNYDD: Max 200+ off Morfa Harlech on 1st Oct; CAERNARFON: The largest counts were all off Bardsey, where passage was heaviest in October, peaking at 623 on 22nd Oct; ANGLESEY: 221 off Point Lynas on 9th July and 220 west here on 7th Oct with 250 on 21st Nov. At North Stack 228 flew past during a 3hr seawatch on 7th Oct and 233 in 1.5hrs on 22nd Oct; FLINT: Max 20 at Gronant on 1st July.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

MULFRAN

(C) Breeding resident in coastal counties from Gwent to Anglesey. Frequently seen offshore in other counties. The count unit is the apparently occupied nest (AON). A regular visitor to inland freshwaters. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	4810
% of BirdTrack lists	28
No of 1km squares	832

Breeding counts were: GWENT: Breeding was again confirmed at the colony on Denny Island where 150 adult/semi-adult birds, 58 pulli and 58 AON were recorded on 7th June; PEMBROKE: 179 AON on St Margaret's island - a slight decrease on the 192 AON in 2014 but similar to the number recorded in 2013, 7 AON on Skomer. Confirmed breeding from Dinas Head; MEIRIONNYDD: 40 birds seen at Craig yr Aderyn on 13th May was the only figure from the breeding colony here; CAERNARFON: 358 AON at the Little Orme, a good increase from 258 AON in 2014 (JNCC). Numbers were down on the Great Orme, with 49 AON compared to 82 in 2014. At Carreg y Llam, there were only two nests, compared to 12 in 2014. Nine nest platforms were counted on Ynys Gwylan Bach, 78.0% lower than the 2006-2015 mean.

Systematic counts from sites holding 50 or more at least once are tabulated as available:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Llandegfedd Res.	6	7	12	15	17	5	20	50	48	20	6	9
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay	80	81	55	16	24	22	39	43	84	87	59	59
GOWER												
Whiteford	55	55	59	23	15	41	56	90	73	68	62	46
CARMARTHEN												
Pendacwydd	23	44	42	10	11	21	15	35	43	29	67	44
Burry Port/Pembrey	71	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	77	-
Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Pt.	12	50	119	-	-	-	52	-	23	47	20	12
BRECON												
Llangorse	84	102	37						68	90	96	101
MEIRIONNYDD												
Broadwater	8	6	4	4	-	-	-	-	99	85	-	-
Dwryd Est	2	8	8	2	-	8	58	120	90	120	-	-
CAERNARFON												
Great Orme	1		10	1	100	4	70	60	80	70	45	11
Little Orme	4	4	300	327	140	20+	603	1306	600	250	50+	2
Rhos Point	20	10	16	100	41		200	30	100	80	15	
FLINT												
Gronant	17	26	118	105	97	208	160	251	221	265	470	174
Near Rhuddlan	9	18	28	114	170	122	128	244	154	126	300	70
CQNR/Oakenholt Marsh	140	24	46	21	12	14	35	27	60	71	24	25

Other counts of 50+ were: GWENT: 50 over Gobion on 7th Feb; GOWER: 67 at Queen's Dock on 19th Jan and 60 at Salthouse Pt on 11th March. Low tide counts included 103 at Llanrhidian Sands on 11th Nov and 101 there on 26th; PEMBROKE: 80+ in Fishguard Harbour on 24th Feb; DENBIGH: 150+ at Horton's Nose, Kinnel Bay, on 19th Nov.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*

MULFRAN WERDD

(C) A regular breeding species on rocky coasts from Gower northwards to Anglesey. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	680
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	249

Breeding information received as follows: PEMBROKE: Breeding colony counts included: 3 AON on Caldey, up from one in 2014, three AON on St Margaret's Island, half the number recorded in 2014, and only one AON along the entire Castlemartin peninsula coast, the lowest number in 30 years of annual monitoring there. There were four AON on Skomer with breeding also recorded on Grassholm and Ramsey; CAERNARFON: 39 pairs nested on Bardsey, the highest for four years. A minimum of 50 young fledged, a productivity of

1.28 young per pair, 33.3% below the 2006-2015 mean. A minimum of 39 nest platforms on Ynys Gwylan Fawr, 25.4% below the 2006-2015 mean. A total of 62 young were present giving a productivity figure of 1.59, 23.2% below the 2006-2015 mean. From Ynys Gwylan Fawr it was possible to count nine platforms on Ynys Gwylan Bach. 15 occupied nests at Carreg y Llam was a small increase on the 13 in 2014.

Systematic counts from sites holding 40+ birds at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			51	37	62	72	39	41	29	52	11	5
Lower Conwy est	6	40	12	3			1	1	1	1		14

Other large counts (40+) were CAERNARFON: 50 at the Little Orme on 1st Jan, 65 at the Great Orme on 7th March, 70 on Bardsey on 15th June, 92 off Morfa Dinlle on 19th Sept and 150+ at Angel Bay, Little Orme, on 11th Sept; ANGLESEY: 70 past Point Lynas on 30th Aug.

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

ADERYN Y BWN

(A) Scarce but regular winter visitor chiefly to Anglesey, Ceredigion, Carmarthen, Glamorgan and Pembroke. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	62
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	19

All records were: GWENT: One at NRWU lagoons on 7th March and one at Uskmouth NWR on 19th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: Two at Kenfig Pool on 4th Jan, then singles there on 15th and 25th Jan and 21st Feb. At Forest Farm one on 4th, 13th and 18th Jan. In the second winter period, singles at Kenfig Pool on 6 dates between 4th Oct and 29th Nov; CARMARTHEN: The only record was of an overwintering bird which remained at Penclacwydd from 13th Dec. 2014 to 18th March; PEMBROKE: During the early part of the year single birds were recorded at the Teifi Marshes on 4th & 22nd Jan, Bosherton on 17th & 30th Jan, Castlemartin Corse on 18th Jan and Freshwater West on 21st Feb. Later in the year singles at Castlemartin Corse on 29th Oct, 7th & 22nd Nov, with two on the 7th Nov, and at the Teifi Marshes from 16th Nov until 18th Dec; CEREDIGION: One at the Teifi marshes, on 16th Nov and 13th Dec; BRECON: One booming at Llangorse Lake on 9th, 10th and 12th May; RADNOR: One at Llandrindod Lake at the end of Nov, later found dead; MONTGOMERY: One at Llyn Coed y Dinas from 1st – 25th Feb and one confirmed at Cors Dyfi by trail camera pictures on 30th Jan and 9th Feb; ANGLESEY: One at Llys Dinam throughout spring but did not breed. Probably the same at Llyn Traffwll on 7th - 8th May with some booming and once on 11th June. Singles at Llyn Coron on 14th Feb and at Mallaeth Marsh on 4th - 6th Jan then into March and again in Sept-Dec.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides*

CREYR MELYN

(A) Rare visitor from Mediterranean. On BBRC list.

At Cemlyn ANGLESEY, a 2nd calendar year bird was discovered on 30th June, and showed occasionally before flying north in the evening. This is the second record for Cemlyn and Anglesey, part of a small influx into Britain, though the only one in Wales.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

CREYR Y GWARTHEG

(A) A scarce visitor, on WRP list.

GWENT: Two at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 27th Sept with one there the next day. What was presumably the second individual was noted briefly at Peterstone Gout later that evening. These are the 4th and 5th record for the county; E. GLAMORGAN: One first seen as it flew into Kenfig Pool's East Pool marsh on 30th Sept, was later that day reported in the dunes on the back of a sheep. It remained at Kenfig NNR until 4th Oct; CARMARTHEN: An adult at Penclacwydd on 29th-30th Sept. was the 8th county record and the 5th for the site.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

CREYR BACH

(B) Now a scarce but increasing breeder and a fairly common autumn migrant and winter visitor, with a distinct influx in autumn. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3005
% of BirdTrack lists	16
No of 1km squares	435

Breeding information: GWENT: Breeding was confirmed once again at an established site on the Gwent Levels; GOWER: One previously used site was deserted, while at the other c.9 nests, 11 juvs seen on 19th June. A pair displaying at Baglan Pool in March but no subsequent evidence of breeding; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding finally proven in the county, with a nest at Minffordd, outcome unknown. Up to 6 birds also seen flying towards the heronry at Yr Ynys, Mawddach and a bird flying into the heronry at Dolrhyd, Dolgellau; CAERNARFON: At the largest colony, east of Bangor, there were approximately 30 occupied nests. The size of this colony has reduced in the last few years, with predation by Ravens and large gulls apparently a problem. There were at least 16 nests at the colony near the Conwy estuary, a large increase on previous years. Another colony west of Caernarfon increased to 10 nests; DENBIGH: Evidence of occupied nests in a heronry near Bodnant Gardens, although no fledged young were reported.

A summary of individuals for sites holding 30+ birds at least once is tabulated below:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GOWER												
Llanrhidian/ Staffal	56	17	25	18	8	22	20	11	35	36	38	74
Upper Loughor	4	8	14	11	3	21	34	57	82	19	6	22
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	3	8	5	6	7	5	16	45	37	39	19	5
PEMBROKE												
Cledgau WeBS	19	20	18				15		30	25	10	19
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	15	7	10	3	30	12	92	118	142	97	21	14
ANGLESEY												
Cefni est		7	8			35	70	30			6	
Inland Sea	9	10	24	8	6	9	22	30	25	33	17	7

*including Ogmores Est, Ogmores Castle and the Watermill. The counts on the Dyfi Estuary are included only in the CEREDIGION figures.

Elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 46 at Loughor Bridge on 9th Sept., 70 at Llangennech on 17th Sept; PEMBROKE: Recorded in lower numbers than previous years, with no double figure counts; BRECON: Max 5 at Llangorse in March and April; MONTGOMERY: Max count 9 at the Upper Dyfi est on 29th Oct; DENBIGH: Max counts 98 on the Conwy at Llansanffraid on 16th Aug and 88 downstream at RSPB Conwy on 20th Aug; FLINT: The max count of 50 at Connah's Quay NR on 13th Sept was close to the record count of 56 at this site in 2013.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Ardea alba*

CREYR MAWR GWYN

(A) *Now becoming an increasingly regular visitor, and has been removed from the WRP list from 1st Jan 2015.*

No of BirdTrack records	240
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	54

GWENT: One at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 18th March and presumably the same bird flying over NWRU reed-beds on 20th March. One in flight over the Chepstow side of the M48 Severn Bridge, on 13th May. July saw the first multiple arrival in the county, with 3 arriving at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 3rd. One at Llandegfedd Res on 6th July remained to 29th Aug and was the first for the site. One was at NWRU reedbeds on 5th July. Another bird was at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 12th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Parc Tredelerch (Lamby Lake) on 3rd July and one at Kenfig Pool from 3rd July to 3rd Sept; GOWER: Birds recorded in North Gower from Broughton Bay to Upper Loughor on many dates from 2nd Jan to 8th June and 31st Aug to 31st Dec, mainly 1-2 but max 4 at Staffal Haegr on 1st and 22nd Nov, 3 together at Pwll y Froga on 22nd Sep and at Llanrhidian on 29th - 30th Oct and 7th and 23rd Dec. In the east, one at R Kenfig reedbeds on 20th July; CARMARTHEN: The overwintering individual remained at Dinefwr Ponds from 31st Oct. 2014 to 24th Jan. and from 10th Oct into 2016. Sightings at Penclacwydd were of 2 on 10th Jan, 1 on 28th Jan, 5th

July and 21st Sept, with 2 on 29th, 1 from 2nd- 21st Oct and 1st Dec. The only other record was one at Llangennech on 3rd Oct.; PEMBROKE: An immature flying over Skomer on 15th May was the first record for the island, CEREDIGION: One at Ynys-hir on 22nd March and 9th April; BRECON: Three birds at Llangorse from 2014 remained until 17th March, with a single seen until 3rd April. One back at Llangorse on 28th Aug was joined by a second bird from 30th Oct, then three here from 2nd Nov. Elsewhere, one flying north over Talybont Res. on 11th Oct; MONTGOMERY: Now seemingly an annual visitor with the Dyfi Estuary and Lake Vyrnwy again playing host to birds in 2015. Reports from the Dyfi Estuary came on 5th Jan, 7th, 12th – 13th, 23rd and 25th March, 11th April and 7th -9th July. Lake Vyrnwy held a well-watched bird on 7th – 15th Aug; MEIRIONNYDD: One on the north bank of the Dyfi at Ynys on 6 dates from 23rd March to 16th May; MEIRIONNYDD/ CAERNARFON: One at Porthmadog Cob on 2nd Sept stayed in the area of the Glaslyn Marshes/Traeth Bach until 27th Sept; CAERNARFON: One west past Bardsey on 16th Aug and one at West Shore, Llandudno, on 14th Oct; ANGLESEY: One at Pentre Berw on 19th-22nd April and one at Cemlyn on 10th-11th July and again on 5th Sept; FLINT: Regular on the Dee estuary in winter, usually on the English side, but sometimes in Wales and can be seen from Connah's Quay NR. 1-2 at the reserve or across the river at White Sands between 4th Jan and 19th Feb and then 11 records of 1-3 birds between 30th Aug and 29th Dec, max 3 on 29th Sept. In the same area, singles in flight over Shotwick Fields on 28th Feb and at Deeside Power Station on 1st March.

2014: MEIRIONNYDD: The Llyn Tegid bird from 15th Aug to 9th Sept 2014 has been accepted by WRP.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

CREYR GLAS

(C) *Resident breeding species occurring widely around estuaries, lakes and inland watercourses; although the population is increasing in some counties, overall in Wales, it appears to be stable. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	4236
% of BirdTrack lists	24
No of 1km squares	850

Colony counts were received as follows: GWENT: 51 – 53 nests at 8 heronries, max 10 nests at Piercefield. Comparing heronries visited in both 2014 and 2015, there was a reduction from 67 to 47; the former heronries at Pant-y-goitre and Llanarth have now been abandoned; E. GLAMORGAN: 16 nests at Croyton Wood, Cardiff, 14 at Coed Llwyn Rhyddid, Hensol, 10 at Darran near Merthyr Vale, 6 at Trehafod (Oaklands), 3-4 at Llwyn-on Res and one at Merthyr Mawr Sawmill; GOWER: 28-29 nests at 8 occupied heronries, max 6 nests at Dyffryn Rhondda; PEMBROKE: Confirmed breeding at four locations; BRECON: 35 nests at Ashford (Llandetty) and 7 nests at Garth Lake; MONTGOMERY: A report of a few nests in a new colony at Welshpool (or at least the re-establishment of an old colony); CAERNARFON: A total of 51 – 52 nests at 9 heronries, max 12 – 13 nests at Pont Solomon, Pwllheli, and 12 nests at Benarth. The total is disappointing in view of the recent run of mild winters, suggesting that the species may be in decline in the county:

ANGLESEY: Bred at Valley Wetlands; DENBIGH: Breeding was confirmed at 3 heronies; at Llyn-y-Briw (23 nests), at Efenechtyd near Ruthin (6 nests) and near Bodnant Gardens (5+ nests). Adults visiting probable nests sites were reported at Lleweni Hall, Bodfari.

Monthly counts from sites with 10 or more birds at least once:

	J	F	M	A	M	Jun	Jul	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Nedern Wetland	6	5	4	10		2		2	1	1	3	8
Llandegfedd Res	3	4	14	8	15	6	4	10	5	4	1	2
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est	10	8	11				42		17	20	8	8
CEREDIGION												
Cors Caron	7	10	14									
CAERNARFON												
Foryd	5	8	10	2	1	2	4	6	5	3	1	5
Pwllheli	4		15				2		11	2		
Traeth Lafan	3	10	13	1	1		2	23	18	8	17	9

Other counts of 10+ were: GOWER: 15 at Old Park Farm Margam on 17th Feb and 1st March with 14 there on 6th, 16 on Berthlwyd Saltmarsh on 2nd April and 13 at Staffal Haegr on 13th July; CARMARTHEN: 12 at Abergwili on 31st Aug; PEMBROKE: 12 at Bosherton on 4th Feb and at Westfield Pill on 9th May; BRECON: 17 at Llangorse Lake on 24th Jan and 14 at Fordd Fawr on 7th March with 19 here on 14th Dec; CAERNARFON: 20 in the Conwy estuary on 11th Oct; DENBIGH: The highest count of 23 came from Grove Hall, Aberwheeler on 4th Feb; FLINT: The highest count of 39 was from Connah's Quay NR on 13th Sept, close to the record count of 40 in 1993.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*
(A) Rare visitor, on WRP list.

CRËYR PORFFOR

E. GLAMORGAN: A 2nd calendar year bird spent time at Kenfig Pool from 19th to 23rd June;

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*
(A) Scarce vagrant, on BBRC list.

CICONIA DU

All the records are of the same 3rd calendar year bird, moving east: GWENT: One in flight at Coed Morgan, near Abergavenny, during the evening of 26th May, the first record for the recording area; E. GLAMORGAN: One flying low over Nantyffyllon on 26th May; GOWER: One flying east over Afan Argoed on 26th May; PEMBROKE: One over Skomer on 25th May.

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia*

CICONIA GWYN

*(A) Unusual visitor, some records may be escaped individuals. On WRP list.*PEMBROKE: One on farmland near Solva on 22nd April.**GLOSSY IBIS** *Plegadis falcinellus*

CRYMANBIG DDU

(A) Rare visitor, on WRP list.

E. GLAMORGAN: One was observed and photographed in flight over Lavernock Pt on 29th Sept; PEMBROKE/ CEREDIGION: A single photographed in flight at the Teifi Marshes on 29th Dec.

2014: ANGLESEY: One at Malltraeth Marsh on 9th Oct.**SPOONBILL** *Platalea leucorodia*

LLWYBIG

(A) A uncommon visitor to Wales, recorded mainly from estuaries and coastal lagoons and occasionally over-wintering and summering. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	30
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	9

All records were: GWENT: One flying up-channel at Black Rock on 14th June and one over Newport Wetlands Reserve Uskmouth in July; CARMARTHEN: The only record was of an immature bird at Penclacwydd from 2nd - 16th Aug.; DENBIGH: Three at RSPB Conwy on 11th Sept and 11th -15th Oct. One was colour-ringed and had been ringed at the Zeeland Delta, The Netherlands.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

GWYACH FACH

(C) Rather uncommon breeding resident on well vegetated lakes, marshes and water courses; scarcer in the land-locked counties. Winter visitor. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2245
% of BirdTrack lists	12
No of 1km squares	309

Breeding records (not full surveys) received were: GWENT: 6 pairs bred at Llanwern steelworks, and birds with young were seen at Beaufort Hill Ponds, Dingestow Court Lake, Magor Marsh, NWR Goldcliff Lagoons, NWR Uskmouth, the River Monnow at Osbaston and The Hoop; E. GLAMORGAN: Continuing unusually favourable conditions at Llanishen Res enabled three pairs to produce five broods. Two broods were noted from the pairs at Parc Slip NR and East Aberthaw Quarry. Single pairs bred at Cors Crychudd Reen and Llanilid, and possibly at other sites where adults were noted in the breeding season; GOWER: Bred at Staffal Haegr, Swansea Vale, Oxwich South Pond, Tir John Pond, Port

Talbot Harbour, Eglwys Nunydd Res and Morfa Tip; CARMARTHEN: Bred at Penclacwydd, Sandy W.P. and Pantllyn, Llandybïe; PEMBROKE: Confirmed breeding at Penberry near St.David's with probable breeding at Marloes Mere; CEREDIGION: A pair with a juvenile at Pond yr Oerfa on 18th Sep, and an adult with three juveniles at Llyn Frongoch on 30th June.. A female on the nest at Bray's Pool (next to Llyn Bwlch Nant yr Arian) on 28th July; BRECON: From early March, birds were trilling at Battle Pools, Ty Mawr Pool and Garth Lake where single pairs reared young. Confirmed beeding at Eligro NR (Llangorse village) where a pair raised three broods, and a pair at Crai Reservoir may also have reared one juvenile. Trilling was heard at Llangorse SCM, Sarnau pools and at Talybont Reservoir in late June but breeding not confirmed at any of these sites; MONTGOMERY: No confirmed breeding records but birds present in the breeding season at Llyn Coed y Dinas, Pwll Penarth and Fan Pool; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair attempted to breed at Trawscoed, Llanuwchllyn but no young seen. 3 on Llyn Barfog on 21st May may have been breeding, and a pair at Llyn Conglog Mawr; CAERNARFON: A pair bred again on Llyn Dinas, with at least one young fledged; ANGLESEY: Bred at Valley Wetlands; DENBIGH: Confirmed breeding at RSPB Conwy (4 chicks) and at Llanddulas Quarry (2 pairs with 4 chicks and 2+ chicks); FLINT: Breeding confirmed at Connah's Quay NR (pair with 2 broods of 2 chicks each) and at Rhydymwyn. Pairs or singing males recorded at Fagl Lane GP, Ysceifiog Lake and pools near Hendre.

Monthly maximum counts at sites holding 10 or more at least once:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Nedern wetland	6	15	10	8							3	4
NWR Uskmouth	6	11	7	11	11	10	14	16	10	9	4	5
Tredegar House		9								8	20	8
Ynysfro Res	14	10	7	2		1	3	18	20	18	19	
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay	54*	45	41	2	1	3	5	6	35	42	47	51
Llan/Lis Res	9	14	18	9	12	6	24	4	24	23	31	16
Parc Taf Bargoed	20	20	4	-	-	1	1	5	12	20	16	14
Talygarn	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Ogmore Est.	11	8	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	10	5
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau WeBS	29	25	7						3	5	8	11
BRECON												
Talybont	21	10	7				10	17	20	27	26	20
MEIRIONNYDD												
Glaslyn/Dwyrdd	9	16	6	1+	1+	-	-	6	6	5	3	5
Tallyllyn	13	11	5	0	0	0	-	7	1	5	2	1
CAERNARFON												
Aber Ogwen	1	1					1	1	5	4	7	11
Foryd	12	7	2						3	4	1	9
FLINT												
Connah's Quay NR			17	18	10	15	12	12	8	18	30	24

* This count on 5th Jan equals the highest ever in the recording area

Other large counts (10+) were PEMBROKE: 25 at Pembroke Mill Pond on 21st Oct; FLINT: 35 at Shotwick Lake on 25th Jan with 30 still there on 8th Feb.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

GWYACH FAWR GOPOG

(C) Resident breeding species in all counties except Pembroke, breeding on shallow, vegetated lakes. Shows a more coastal distribution in winter and recorded on passage from several counties. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1828
% of BirdTrack lists	10
No of 1km squares	310

GWENT: Two active nests at Llandegfedd Res on 19th April. The only active nest at Machine Pond was lost in a storm, and a nest at Pant-yr-eos Res also failed. A pair was displaying at Beaufort Hill Pond on 11th April; E. GLAMORGAN: Two pairs took advantage of conditions at Llanishen Res to breed, and one at Lisvane where newly hatched chicks were noted on the late date of 12th Aug. Later still, a pair was feeding a juvenile on R. Ely by Watkiss Way, Cardiff, on 30th Sept. Breeding was also confirmed at Bute East Dock with two broods and a third unsuccessful attempt, and in Cardiff Bay from two nesting attempts. Single pairs bred successfully at E. Aberthaw Quarry and Kenfig Pool. Both nesting attempts at Cosmeston CP failed due to predation; GOWER: Bred at Eglwys Nunydd Res; CARMARTHEN: Two pairs bred at Ashpits Pond and 1 pair at the Lower Lliedi Res; PEMBROKE: A pair at Rosebush built a nest but were unsuccessful as in previous years; CEREDIGION: Breeding attempts at Llyn Glandwgan and Bray's Pool (next to Bwlch Nant yr Arian) but no sign of success; BRECON: Successful breeding from single pairs at Beacons Reservoir where three juveniles were present in mid-Aug, and two young reared at both Crai and Dolymynach Reservoirs. Two pairs at Talybont res, two pairs at Llangoise and a pair at Cantref res all apparently failed; MONTGOMERY: Probable breeding attempts at Lake Vyrnwy, Llyn Clywedog, Llyn Coed y Dinas (2 pairs), Llyn Ebyr and Marsh's Pool (Llanidloes). 2 large chicks at Llyn Ebyr; MEIRIONNYDD: No breeding records received but attempts were assumed to have been made at Tallyllyn; CAERNARFON: Pairs bred on Llyn Elsi, Llyn Dinas and Llyn Cwellyn, though outcomes were not known. There was a pair on Llyn Idwal on 16th June, but no other indications of breeding; ANGLESEY: Two pairs at Llyn Maelog on 4th May, with up to 3 juveniles seen here in July and Aug; DENBIGH: Breeding was proven at RSPB Conwy with an adult and juvenile seen on 29th June. A pair was displaying at Llyn Brenig on 19th March. Pairs were also seen during the breeding season at Llyn Bran, Llyn Aled Isaf and Nant-y-Ffrith Reservoirs, with possible pairs at Gresford Flash and Llyn Cyfynwy; FLINT: No proof of breeding, but a pair displaying at Fagl Lane GP on 7th April, 3 pairs here on 26th April and 2 pairs on 13th July. A pair was displaying at Padeswood Pool on 8th April.

Monthly counts from sites holding 20 or more at least once were:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Llandegfedd Res	6	18	13	18	20	16	45	50	32	6	5	9
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay (*)	16	21	28	40	33	40	66*	64	54	37	15	16
Cardiff Bay W.R.	10	20	1	24	-	23	30	-	-	20	15	6
GOWER												
Blackpill/ Swansea Bay	254	167	106	38	2	2	-	-	5	14	86	88
Baglan Bay	114	238	8	-	-	-	-	-	3	231	186	-
Burry Inlet	14	8	14	65	32	8	17	24	46	21	9	8
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	3	8	1	3	2	-	11	3	2	66	2	2
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est	16	26	3						2	3	13	6
BRECON												
Llangorse	10	24	12	12	7	5	2	1	3	12	12	10
CAERNARFON												
Rhos Point	49	18	27	6	5		1	1		1	1	
Traeth Lafan	110	197	40	10	7		43	140	263	80	12	45
ANGLESEY												
Benllech		28	31									
Traeth Llugwy	8	25										24

(*) some counts include CBWR. The count of 66 on 23rd July is the highest ever in the recording area.

A continued decline at the main sites was recorded in BRECON. Counts of 20+ elsewhere were: GOWER: 35 at Oxwich on 1st Feb and 34 at Whiteford Point off Berges Island on 24th April; CARMARTHEN: 24 at Telpyn Point on 11th Jan. and 39 at Pendine on 11th Feb.; PEMBROKE: In winter the south of the county is the stronghold for this species with max count of 60 at Amroth on 4th Jan; CAERNARFON: 20 off Black Rock Sands on 24th Jan; ANGLESEY: 20 in Red Wharf Bay on 14th Feb; DENBIGH: 35+ off Llanddulas on 7th Nov; FLINT: 45 between Bagillt and Greenfield on the Dee estuary on 4th Nov.

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena*

GWYACH YDDFGOCH

(A) Scarce but regular winter visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	13
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	7

The species has become scarcer in Wales in recent years, and will be on the WRP list from January 2017. One at Whiteford Pt GOWER on 13th and 25th Jan and in PEMBROKE single birds at Amroth on 5th Jan and at Angle Bay from 8th to 17th Jan were the only records for the year.

SLAVONIAN GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

GWYACH GORNI OG

(B) A scarce and local winter visitor, chiefly to coastal waters, occasionally recorded on passage. Rare inland. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	93
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	43

Summary of multiple winter records:

		J	F	M	A		O	N	D
MEIRIONNYDD / CAERNARFON	Glaslyn estuary	2		1			1	1	1
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	4	11	3			1	1	1
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch Bay	4			1			1	2

Elsewhere, GOWER: One at Leason Pill saltmarsh on 11th Jan, then on 6 dates in the Burry Inlet to 6th April, mainly 1-2 but 4 at Wernffrwd on 22nd Feb and 3 there on 4th April (BS, SJS). Elsewhere, 4 at Rhossili/ Mewslade on 11th Jan. In the second winter period, 3 off Whiteford Sands on 26th Nov and singles at Burry Great Pill on 11th Dec and at Salthouse Pill on 31st. Elsewhere, singles at Swansea Bay on 7th Oct and Oxwich Bay on 16th Nov; CARMARTHEN: Single birds at Pwll Fishing Lakes on 17th Oct. and Pembrey Harbour on 24th Nov.; PEMBROKE: Singles at Angle Bay on 8th Feb and 7th March, then another at St. David's Head on 16th March and finally at Llys y fran on 30th Oct; CEREDIGION: There was one at Ynyslas on 4th Jan, two at Ynys-hir on 22nd Jan and one there on 1st Dec; CAERNARFON: One off Penmaenmawr on 8th Feb; ANGLESEY: One on the Alaw Estuary on 2nd Jan and one on the Inland Sea on 1st – 18th Jan. One passed Point Lynas on 21st Nov; FLINT: A single on the river at Connah's Quay NR on 22nd Feb.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

GWYACH YDDFDDU

(A) Rare winter visitor to coastal waters, occasionally recorded on passage. Formerly bred on Anglesey. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	54
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	12

GWENT: One at Llandegfedd Res on 13th Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: One off Porthcawl on 10th Nov; GOWER: One at Eglwys Nunydd Res on several dates 4th Jan - 17th March; MEIRIONNYDD: 2 in the Glaslyn Estuary on 16th Jan; ANGLESEY: One at Holyhead on 8th -23rd Feb; FLINT: Up to 3 on Shotwick Lake between 1st Jan and 28th Feb and a single at a quarry near Afonwen between 1st Jan and 1st April. Some of these birds were also present at the end of 2014

HONEY-BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus*

BOD Y MEL

(B) First confirmed breeding in 1992, now breeds in small numbers. Formerly a rare summer visitor, numbers have increased throughout the 1980's and it is now recorded annually. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	4

A nest in western Glamorgan (GOWER) fledged two chicks. The adult male here had a blue colour ring, and had been hatched a few km away in 2008 (Stephen Roberts).

Records of non-breeding / passage birds were: BRECON: One at Llangynidr on 26th May and 25th July; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Ynys Ferlas on 17th April; DENBIGH: One at Llyn Brenig on 13th July and an excavated wasp's nest at Clocaenog on 5th July was probably dug out by this species..

RED KITE *Milvus milvus*

BARCUD COCH

(C) Formerly widespread, but almost eradicated between the late 18th and early 20th centuries. Now an increasing resident breeder in Wales. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1688
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	971

The Welsh Kite Trust is no longer able to monitor breeding pairs. GWENT: An increase noted, with over twice as many records this year than last. Birds were seen carrying nesting material near Blaenavon, two pairs bred near Nantyglo, at least 8 pairs in the Abergavenny/Raglan/Usk areas, and breeding was also reported from a site south of the M4; E.GLAMORGAN: One pair probably bred; GOWER: No breeding records but present at 20 suitable sites; CEREDIGION: Probably 250+ territories; MONTGOMERY: 4 nests reported, but now a relatively common breeder; MEIRIONNYDD: 7 possible territories; CAERNARFON: 8 possible territories, including successful breeding in the northern coastal lowlands for the first time.

Other interesting observations included: CARMARTHEN: 20 at Cross Inn Feeding Station, Llanddeusant on 10th March; PEMBROKE: One on Skokholm on 15th April was only the island's 4th ever record, this was followed by one on 13th Oct. On Ramsey five flew over on 21st Feb, with singles on three dates in March and two dates in April. A total of 51 logged passing over on 9th June, a similar phenomenon to the 66 logged a few years ago around this time of year. Mainly singles logged from Aug to Sept with seven on 26th Sept the highest in this period; CEREDIGION: Between 100 and 250 were regularly attracted to the Bwlch Nant-yr-Arian feeding station; BRECON: 25 at a roost near Trecastle on 24th Dec.

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

BOD Y GWERNI

(B) An increasing passage migrant, occasionally overwinters. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	157
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	50

Breakdown of other records for each county (and some specific sites), separated by sex where given (M = male, Imm. Male = immature male, CC = cream-crown, female/imm.):

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A.	S	O	N	D
GWENT	1											
Newport WR	2	2	2	M 2CC		1	1	2CC	M	M CC	M CC	1
E. GLAMORGAN				CC				CC+				
GOWER								CC				
Llanrhidian / Staffal Haegr				2CC	CC		CC	Up to 4 CC				
CARMARTHEN		1		1					2	1		
PEMBROKE				1				2	1			
Marloes/Skomer/ Skokholm			2		1+		CC	Imm.M CC		2 Imm.M		
Castle Martin Corse	CC											CC
CEREDIGION							CC	CC	CC	1		
BRECON								CC				
MONTGOMERY									CC			
Dyfi	M					CC		M CC				
CAERNARFON					2							
ANGLESEY			CC		1			3	1			
DENBIGH					1			1				
FLINT					1			1+	3+	1+	1+	1

There was a large increase in the number of records in GWENT, almost all at Newport W.R., though the species is not thought to have bred there. A pair made an unsuccessful breeding attempt at RSPB Malltraeth, ANGLESEY.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

BOD TINWEN

(C) Small numbers breed on the uplands of north and mid-Wales, otherwise a winter visitor and passage migrant in small numbers. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	259
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	124

Breeding information: BRECON: Two chicks successfully reared from one site and ring-tails noted at two others; MONTGOMERY: 4 pairs at Lake Vyrnwy fledged 5 chicks (the

males of three of these pairs were aged as 2nd calendar year), one pair also bred in the south of the county; MEIRIONNYDD: A total of 20 pairs (with a possible two more) fledged a minimum of 18 young; CAERNARFON: Breeding season records suggest the presence of two pairs in the Carneddau, of which one pair is known to have fledged several young, the outcome of the other not known. One breeding pair on the Caernarfon part of the Migneint with possibly a second pair here, again outcome not known.

Widely recorded outside the breeding season and range. Breakdown of other records for each county (for some, specific sites are also included), separated by sex where given (M = male, J = juv., 1st M = immature male, RT = ring-tail):

	<i>J</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>Jy</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
GWENT				M					3	1		
Newport WR	3	3	3					2	1	1+	1+	1+
E. GLAMORGAN	2	2	2	M					4	3		
Mynydd Eglwysilan	2RT	M								RT		
GOWER	RT	1		1						RT		
Llanrhidian	2RT									2RT	M + 2RT	
CARMARTHEN		1	2RT	M					RT		M	RT
Penclacwydd		1	1									
PEMBROKE	2M+ 2RT	RT								2RT	RT	
Dowrog / St. David's / Ramsey		RT	RT							RT		M RT
Plumstone Mt	2M RT	RT			RT	RT						
Marloes / Skomer / Skokholm			RT	RT	RT					2RT	2RT	
Castle Martin	RT								RT			RT
CEREDIGION	1	1							1			2
Dyfi est.	1	1	1									1
Cors Caron	3	2	1							1	1	2
BRECON	M	RT					RT	M 2RT	M 2RT	M RT	M 2RT	
MONTGOMERY Dyfi	RT	RT	RT									2M RT
MEIRIONNYDD		3	2		1						RT	RT
CAERNARFON		2			2					3	1	
Bardsey				RT	M+					RT+		
ANGLESEY		2		1						3		
Malltraeth	1	1	1									1
DENBIGH	M		M	3M 2RT	7M 5RT	M RT	2RT	M	M			
FLINT	M RT	3RT							RT		RT	3RT

GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis*

GWALCH MARTH

(C) An increasing breeding resident in all Welsh counties. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	158
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	125

GWENT: Breeding was confirmed from Cwmcarn, two sites in the Usk valley, and one in the north of the county where three eggs hatched but the chicks succumbed to the very heavy June rains. In the east of the county, 22 nests were monitored, productivity was just 1.62 young per pair and thus well below the level of 2014; E. GLAMORGAN: Two confirmed breeding pairs. Otherwise reported from 44 locations; GOWER: No breeding records, but present at 7 suitable sites in the breeding season and at a further 10 sites outside that; CARMARTHEN: Display at one site, with widespread breeding season records; PEMBROKE: Reported from 8 sites across the county and at three during the breeding season; BRECON: Reported from 15 sites, with breeding confirmed at three; MONTGOMERY: Bred at Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: 7 probable breeding sites and recorded at a further three locations; CAERNARFON: Present at two sites during the breeding season and at one other in December; ANGLESEY: One at Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn on 23rd Oct killed and carried away a Feral Pigeon; DENBIGH: Reported from 17 1km squares; FLINT: One record, at Leeswood on 29th June.

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

GWALCH GLAS

(D) Common and widespread breeding resident throughout Wales, some evidence that it is declining where Goshawks are widespread. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1673
% of BirdTrack lists	8
No of 1km squares	620

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

BWNCATH

(C) Common and widespread breeding resident. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5647
% of BirdTrack lists	28
No of 1km squares	1960

In CAERNARFON, 10-11 territories in an area of 20km² between Bangor, Felinheli and Pentir, compared to 9-10 pairs here in 2014.

Largest counts (17+) included: E. GLAMORGAN: 33 in a stony field by Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm on 18th Oct; CEREDIGION: 23 at Cors Caron on 20th Jan and 17 there on 11th Feb; CAERNARFON: 27 in the Llanbedr-y-cennin area on 25th March. Autumn passage on Bardsey peaked at 19 on 25th Sept, equalling the second-highest count for the island; ANGLESEY: 21 in thermals over South Stack on 26th Sept.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus***GWALCH Y PYSGOD**

(B) Scarce but increasing breeder, also an annual spring and autumn passage migrant. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	204
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	99

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: MONTGOMERY: Two pairs bred, both fledging three chicks, which were also seen on the CEREDIGION & MEIRIONNYDD sides of the Dyfi estuary; MEIRIONNYDD: The Glaslyn pair fledged two young, these were "Mrs G's" 31st and 32nd chicks. Another pair is believed to have fledged two young. Birds from the Glaslyn nest were often seen at Porthmadog CAERNARFON during the summer, and elsewhere summering birds were recorded in both PEMBROKE and BRECON.

Birds were recored between 7th March and 11th Oct. Apart from the above, approximate monthly totals for each county:

	Feb	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
GWENT			2	3	1		2		
E. GLAMORGAN		2+	2+	1	1		1	1	
GOWER		1	3				2	2	
CARMARTHEN			1						
PEMBROKE		1	4				1	3	
CEREDIGION		1						1	
BRECON			2+				3		1
MONTGOMERY							2		
MEIRIONNYDD				1			2		
CAERNARFON			2	1	1				1
ANGLESEY			3	4	2	1	2	1	
DENBIGH			3	1+	1			1	
FLINT			1	1					

Additional record from BRECON in 2014: one at Usk Res. in mid-August.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus***RHEGEN Y DWR**

(C) A scarce breeding resident, more commonly recorded as a passage migrant and winter visitor to all counties. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	745
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	129

Breeding records received were: GWENT: The annual breeding survey at NWR in April recorded 6 breeding pairs, compared to three pairs in 2014; E. GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding reports, though April – July records at Tirfounder Fields and Kenfig NNR; GOWER: Probably bred at R Kenfig reedbeds (4+ birds calling in breeding season), Margam railway sidings, Crymlyn Bog, Pant y Sais, Oxwich and Staffal Haegr;

CEREDIGION: An adult with two chicks on 9th July at Cors Caron. A bird was also heard singing there on 23rd April; BRECON: Calling birds at Y Gors in May/June suggested two territories there, and separate family parties were located at Llangorse Lake hide and in Point Field. One was at Brechfa Pool on 31st May; CAERNARFON: The only potential breeding record was one at Afonwen pools on 13th April.

Maximum autumn & winter concentrations (5+) were:

		<i>J</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	4	7	1	7		1	2	7	1	5
E. GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	11							6	8	5
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	3	4	3	1			1	5	3	2
CEREDIGION	Teifi Est	3	3	3					1	3	6

Other large counts (5+) were: E. GLAMORGAN: 6 at Tirfounder Fields on 18th Jan and 7 responded to playback at Parc Slip NR on 17th Feb; PEMBROKE: Max mainland count was 7 at the Teifi Marshes on 6th March. On Skokholm, 8 on 29th Sept, increasing to 14 on 8th Oct. On Skomer, 6 on 25th & 29th Sept and max 10 on 8th Oct; BRECON: Counts in both winters at Llangorse Lake were higher than for some years due to high water pushing birds out of reedbeds and up ditches. Western ditches and hedges held 8 on 18th Jan, and western reedbeds between Ty Mawr Wood and R Llynfi held 10 on 1st Dec. A further 5-6 in ditches south of Llangasty Church on 16th.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

RHEGEN FRAITH

(A) *Rare vagrant and occasional breeder. On WRP list. Wales Green listed.*

PEMBROKE: One on Skomer on 10th Sept was only the third for the island and the first in 45 years; CEREDIGION: One at the Teifi Marshes on 14th Sept.

CORN CRAKE *Crex crex*

RHEGEN YR YD

(A) *Formerly bred, now a scarce passage migrant, on WRP list. Wales Red listed.*

ANGLESEY: One was at Dulas Bay on 25th - 30th May

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

IAR DDWR

(C) *A widespread and locally common breeding resident and winter visitor. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	4124
% of BirdTrack lists	25
No of 1km squares	495

Breeding records included: GWENT: Breeding was recorded at Cwmbran Boating Lake, Dingtow Court Lake, Magor Marsh, NWR, Osbaston (Monnow), Pengam Pond, Risca

and The Hoop; E. GLAMORGAN: First reported breeding on 1st April when a pair were with young on the Frog Pond at Pyle Ind Est. Breeding confirmed at Cardiff Bay, Fochriw, Forest Farm/Glamorgan Canal, Cosmeston CP, Cors Crychudd Reen and Ystrad Mynach Park. Birds were in suitable habitat at many other locations during the breeding season; GOWER: Bred at 22 sites; CARMARTHEN: Bred at Penclacwydd (25+ broods); CEREDIGION: A breeding attempt at Tynygraig on 15th June; BRECON: A pair bred at Sarnau pools but the young were predated. Chicks were raised at Brechfa Pool, Eligro NR (Llangorse) and Ty Mawr Pool. Two at Talybont Reservoir on 29th Sept may have indicated breeding nearby. A pair made two nesting attempts on a duck-pond at Castle Farm, Sennybridge but both failed; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair attempted to breed at Trawscoed, Llanuwchllyn for the first time but no young were seen. Present at Gwern y Braich on 9th April indicating a possible breeding site; CAERNARFON: An increase in Bardsey's breeding population to 12 pairs, five higher than in 2013, but only 9 of the 35 chicks survived to fledging. Several pairs bred at Rhos-on-sea Golf Course, possibly in double figures, with probably 4 pairs breeding at Parc Menai, 3 pairs at Morfa Madryn and breeding also recorded at Bodafon farm pond, the Spinnies and on Afon Rhythallt just below Llyn Padarn; ANGLESEY: 2 juvs were at Pentre Traeth, Rhosneigr on 25th June. At Cemlyn pairs were seen regularly, but a juvenile in late July was possibly not hatched here.

Monthly max. at the main wintering sites, with 40+ at least once, are tabulated as available:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
NWR	48	18	16	14	9	12	20	34	35	33	17	34
Mon-Brecon Canal	51	47	22	18		23	45		34	52	61	52
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay inc	44	38	28	11	12	16	27	10	25	24	19	25
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	37	57	21	31	22	37	-	11	71	65	74	56
DENBIGH												
Pensarn	37+	41	22	13	1+	2	10+	31	1	30+	22+	42

Other counts of 40+ were: PEMBROKE: 43 at Pembroke Mill Pond on 21st Oct;

COOT *Fulica atra*

CWTIAR

(C) A locally common breeding resident and winter visitor, widespread throughout Wales. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3273
% of BirdTrack lists	19
No of 1km squares	333

Breeding records are: GWENT: 4 pairs bred at both Cwmbran Boating Lake and at Tredegar Park, with breeding also recorded at Cwmtillery, Cleppa Park, Magor Marsh, Nedern Wetland, Liswerry Pond and The Hoop, Penallt; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding at 18 sites, all except Abercwmboi in the southern half of the recording area;

CARMARTHEN: Bred at Penclacwydd (4 broods); GOWER: Bred at 8 sites, with a total of 14 breeding pairs; CEREDIGION: Breeding attempt at Nanteos pool. Numbers much reduced in recent years; BRECON: A pair at Garth Lake was nest-building on 19th April. Five pairs at Brechfa Pool each made at least one breeding attempt, though few young survived into late summer. Two advanced young at Llangasty on 18th August probably fledged, but no young seen at Talybont Res; MONTGOMERY: Bred at Llyn Mawr with 3 fledged young there on 9th June; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair at Morfa Harlech on 10th March, but no chicks reported; CAERNARFON: At least 3 pairs on the pools at Parc Menai near Bangor, a pair also bred at Morfa Madryn. Birds present in the breeding season at Pwllheli harbour, Afonwen pools, Ystumllyn and Rhos-on-sea golf course; ANGLESEY: No longer appears to breed at Cemlyn, and has declined dramatically. Only one bird was present in April and May; DENBIGH: Just two records of confirmed breeding; FLINT: 13 records of probable breeding and 31 of confirmed breeding.

Monthly max. at the main wintering sites (100+ at least once) are tabulated as available:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Ynysfro Res	143	85	44	20		18	46	89	128	127	109	36
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay excl	450	201	111	51	45	55	173	337	408	350	350	290
Cardiff Bay W.R.	2	43	8	10	-	37	60	-	210	70	80	60
Llan / Lis. Res	39	37	30	P	35	87	200	161	130	157	170	207
Roath Park Lake	126	101	61	45	-	-	130	194	191	222	215	174
BRECON												
Llangorse	470	400	148	44	30	2	6	2	58	200	330	367

Other counts of 100+ were: GOWER: c.130 at Eglwys Nynydd Res on 28th Nov; FLINT: 130 at Connah's Quay NR on 5th Feb, 141 there on 13th Feb and 180 at Shotwick Fields on 25th Jan.

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

GARAN

(A) Rare visitor, on WRP list.

GWENT: Many records this year, but all apparently of just two individuals, 'Lofty' (male) and 'Gribble' (female) from the Slimbridge Great Crane Project. They first appeared at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 18th March and were then seen, mostly in flight, on at least nine days to 29th July; E. GLAMORGAN: All reports are all assumed to relate to birds from the Great Crane Project in Somerset, wandering across the Bristol Channel into South Wales. In April, there were 2 over Barry, then 4 over Cardiff city centre on 6th, 2 at Sker on 17th and 18th and 2 over Wick on 18th, then 2 at Erw Hill, Llantrisant, and 2 at Rhaslas Pond on 19th and 2 over Cowbridge on 20th. One over Penarth on 8th May and in Sept one was seen over the NRW offices at St. Mellon's.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicnemus*

RHEDWR Y MOELYDD

(A) Very rare vagrant, on WRP list.

GWENT: One at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 23rd April was the first record for the site and the first for the county since 1998.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

CAMBIG

(A) Breeds in Gwent and increasing in eastern Flint, elsewhere still a scarce visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	136
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	15

GWENT: A poor breeding season, for although 40 pairs bred, there was catastrophic predation and no young fledged, a disappointment after the successful season of 2014. As usual, the highest counts of the year were in April (76 on 13th) and May (78 on 9th). Away from the coast, one at Llandegfedd Res on 6th April; E. GLAMORGAN: Three flew west at Sker Pt on 31st July, and there were 3 at Kenfig Pool on 19th Oct; GOWER: Two at Berges Island, Whiteford, on 17th March; CAERNARFON: One at Llyn McAlpine, Porthmadog, on 1st May; ANGLESEY: One at Malltraeth Cob Pools on 8th April; FLINT: Earliest record was one at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 18th Feb. Most records were of 2-3 birds, but 6 at Connah's Quay NR on 28th Sept and 21 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 6th March.

OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus*

PIODEN Y MOR

(C) A common, chiefly coastal, breeding species and abundant winter visitor to all coastal areas of Wales. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	4039
% of BirdTrack lists	23
No of 1km squares	686

Breeding records were GWENT: A bird on a nest at Uskmouth power station on 30th May and 5th June, and juveniles seen at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons and Llandegfedd Res; GOWER: Bred at Whiteford burrows, where a pair had two eggs on 9th July, probably bred at the Afan est; PEMBROKE: Breeding evidence from 13 mainland 1km squares, 73 territories on Skomer, 55 on Skokholm and 20 on Ramsey; CEREDIGION: Breeding records from Aberarth, Aberleri, New Quay, Cardigan Island and three pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir; BRECON: A pair bred on Crannog island at Llangorse, fledging a single chick. In the Wye valley, one at Ffordd Fawr on 7th March and 4 at Pipton on 3rd April, but breeding was not suspected at either site; MONTGOMERY: At least one pair attempted to breed at Llyn Coed y Dinas and at Dolydd Hafren, two breeding pairs at Caersws; MEIRIONNYDD: 2 pairs at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 6th April both holding territories with one pair on 12th April.

One at Penrhyndeudraeth sewage works on 22nd Apr behaving as if on territory; CAERNARFON: 98 pairs on Bardsey, three fewer than last year. Just 31 juveniles were seen, of which only 7 survived to fledge. Three pairs bred at Morfa Madryn and one pair at the Great Orme. A pair bred on the roof of the De Winton's building at Caernarfon for the fourth year running; ANGLESEY: Several pairs seen with young at RSPB Valley Wetlands and a pair raised 2 chicks in Holyhead Harbour. Five nests were found on The Skerries. At Cemlyn at least 19 pairs bred this year, slightly more than last year. Of these, only 7 pairs are known to have hatched chicks, with 4 juveniles surviving until the seasons end; DENBIGH: Three records of probable breeding and one of confirmed breeding; FLINT: Three records of probable breeding and thirteen of confirmed breeding.

Sizeable flocks of this species occur all round the Welsh coast and the monthly max. for the main sites (holding counts of 1,000 at least once) are tabulated as known.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER												
Broughton\Whiteford	5300	3800	414	170	142	-	1000	6400	2500	1000	1627	1509
Llanrhidian\Wernffrwd\Crofty	1600	3200	1800	608	45	47	2426	6000	2100	770	8000	4110
Penclawdd area	4900	4046	2000	175	46	346	661	700	1375	1012	4403	930
Weobley								1840	3000	1900		
Blackpill	1171	1445	786	341	500	400	588	1075	1252	1827	1126	1182
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd						10	137		1		1478	
Burry Port/ Pembrey	500		200		500			2500	1000		700	600
Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Pt.	433	966							2930	702	706	5
Gwendraeth	5910	4020	1854						2102	6051	728	3261
Taf	2567	2210	1000						70	605	360	500
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	5740	3537	2430	350	150	140	977	5074	7450	4813	7232	5657
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	4500	2000	1200	600	52	450	250	2200	2500	1500	1500	5000
Mostyn		265	1120	100	95	170	250	42	450	122	6000	310
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	200	200	40	100	70	200	50	200	300	400	500	400

Other notable counts were: CARMARTHEN: 3,500 at Llanelli Beach on 7th Nov; FLINT: 6,500+ at Talacre gas terminal on 21st Feb and 8,000+ there on 8th Jan.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

CWTIAD LLWYD

(C) A widespread and common winter visitor to Welsh estuaries and spring & autumn migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	220
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	92

Numbers have declined significantly over the past ten years. The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 40 at least once) are tabulated as available.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT												
Peterstone Wentl.	60	61	3	1					2		2	14
GOWER												
Weobley saltings	83	66	49	17	1	-	4	4	-	5	142	50
Wernffrwd\Llanrhidian	18	164	17	10	-	-	-	7	7	16	30	-
Penclawdd\Crofty	66	47	4	12	1	-	-	1	10	-	15	15
Whiteford	21	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	39	46
Loughor bridge	48	32	2		1							
ANGLESEY												
Alaw estuary	74	118						1+				

Other large counts (40+) included: ANGLESEY: 45 in Holyhead Bay on 29th Oct and 80+ on rocks at Traeth Gribin on 13th Dec; FLINT: 82 at Talacre on 19th Jan and 93 at Point of Ayr on 4th Feb. In the second winter period 62 at Point of Ayr on 13th Dec.

Inland, one at Treowen lake GWENT on 16th Aug.

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria*

CWTIAD AUR

(C) A scarce and declining breeding species, found chiefly on the upland plateaux of Denbigh, Radnor, Ceredigion and Brecon. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	315
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	155

Breeding records or records indicating possible breeding were: BRECON: 6 territories in the Breconshire part of the Black Mountains in April/May, success unknown. Three of these were in the traditional area, where a male was song-flighting on 10th March. An apparent small increase in the Black Mountains was matched by confirmed breeding on Mynydd Llangynidr where a pair was accompanied by three small chicks in late-May. Nearby, small areas of *Eriophorum* attracted another three males holding territory in late-May. Just one pair held territory in 8 km² of blanket bog on the Elenydd above Abergwesyn, but any nesting attempt failed; MEIRIONNYDD: Two at Clip, Moelwyn on 7th May may have been migrants or breeding. Two at Sirior on 9th March may have been on territory, and there was one pair in an area west of Bala; DENBIGH: A pair near Cadair Berwyn, Berwyn Mountains, on 20th June probably attempting to breed there.

Records are rather incomplete but monthly max. at major wintering areas (holding 400 at least once) are tabulated as available:

		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
E. GLAMORGAN	Sker area	400	1000	150	200		44	377	300+	15
GOWER	Whiteford to Penclawdd	2800	2100	700	7	-	10	500	2400	3040
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	800	400				1			
	Gwendraeth	200	1250						650	500
	Taf	6000	2000						2100	
PEMBROKE	Cleddau Est.	280	187	750				600	317	370
CEREDIGION	Dyfi Est.	1320						860	860	
	Llanrhystud/ Llansantffraed/ Llanon	500	350					335		
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater	2	0	70	0	-	0	900	1000	-
CAERNARFON	Morfa Dinlle	260	250+	1100				1410		
ANGLESEY	Malltraeth	700+	600+			4	26	127		900

Other large winter flocks (400+) in coastal counties were: PEMBROKE: 1,500 at Freshwater West on 2nd Jan. In the second winter period, an exceptional 4,500 at Landshipping on 27th Dec and 600 at Trefeiddan Marsh on 3rd March.

Inland records included: .CARMARTHEN: c.50 at Carn Fatho on 7th March, 85 at Garreg Lwyd on 22nd , c.170 at Mynydd Pencarreg on 6th April; CEREDIGION: Max counts 60 at Blaengwenllan on 12th Oct and 60 at Rhos Garn Whilgarn on 22nd Nov; BRECON: Max 270 at Llandefalle Hill in Jan and March, 125 in Dec. 150 at Mynydd Illtyd in Jan, 280 here in Dec; RADNOR: A flock of 440+ near Painscastle was a record count for the county. There has been a noticeable increase in wintering numbers in recent years; MONTGOMERY: Upland passage records only were received (Jan-March and Sept-Oct). Numbers down on previous years with just 75 the max count near Cefn Coch on 12th Feb and 19th March. In autumn max 50 at Llyn Hir on 8th Oct and west of Llanidloes on 9th Oct.

DOTTEREL *Charadrius morinellus*

HUTAN Y MYNYDD

(A) *An occasional breeder, uncommon migrant in spring and autumn. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	29
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	16

Spring records were: CARMARTHEN: All records from Garreg Lwyd, 5 on 16th April, 12 on 7th May and 2 on 10th; CEREDIGION: A female at Plynlimon on 19th - 20th April with three here on 21st April, and one at Ynyslas on 26th April; CAERNARFON: In the Carneddau, 5 on Foel Grach on 28th April and two on Foel Fras on 4th May. On the coast, one on the Great Orme on 9th May; ANGLESEY: One on the Range on 7th May

On return passage: CARMARTHEN: 2 juvs at Garreg Lwyd. on 27th Sept; PEMBROKE: One at St. David's Head on 15th Sept; CAERNARFON: One on Foel Fras on 7th Sept, 12+ on Moel Siabod summit on 16th Oct and 4+ on Carnedd y Filiast (Glyderau) on 22nd Oct.

On the coast, there were singles on the Great Orme on 24th and 31st Aug and at Aberdaron on 28th Sept; ANGLESEY: One on the Range on 13th-14th Sept

RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

CWTIAD TORCHOG

(C) A scarce breeder, also a common passage migrant and winter visitor to all coastal areas. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	914
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	224

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: At Cleppa Park, a pair with two chicks on 21st and 26th June and again on 5th July; E. GLAMORGAN: At East Aberthaw a pair with 2 well-grown juveniles on 4th June; GOWER: 6 pairs with 2 or more chicks at Whiteford burrows on 9th July, possibly bred at Crymlyn burrows and Waterfront SA1; CARMARTHEN: Bred at Burry Port, where a pair had one chick on 19th July; CEREDIGION: Probably attempted to breed at Ynyslas with up to 12 present in June. Elsewhere, single pairs nested at north beach, Aberaeron, and near Borth; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair at Aberdysynni salt pool had 4 chicks. 4 at Tonfanau on 13th May could have been on territory and 3 on the Artro on 10th June also potential breeders. Inland, a pair at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 23rd May, possibly on territory; CAERNARFON: At least three pairs nested around Morfa Madryn, at least one of these fledged young. At least one pair bred near Morfa Aber and was seen with 3 chicks. Breeding also confirmed at Penrhyn Bay, Great Orme, West Shore (Llandudno) and at Morfa Conwy – Deganwy, with display noted at Aber Dwyfor. The area between Dinas Dinlle and Pontllyfni had at least 4 breeding pairs, though outcomes are not known. A pair held territory on Bardsey in spring, but no breeding attempt here this year; ANGLESEY: Three pairs attempted to breed at Cemlyn, but all the young were predated; DENBIGH: Four records of probable breeding; FLINT: Two records of probable breeding and five records of confirmed breeding all from the Gronant/Talacre coast, including 6 nestlings ringed in July.

Widespread around the Welsh coast. The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 100 at least once) are tabulated as available.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT												
NWR Goldcliff Lags	12	12	1	28	20	9	10	325	33	36	278	33
GOWER												
Crymlyn burrows	220	-	3	13	-	11	1	196	140	118	75	91
CARMARTHEN												
Burry Port/Pembrey	125		13		11		11	110	167	50	106	120
Cefn Sidan/ Tywyn Pt.								200	52			
CEREDIGION												
Dyfi est	2	-	2	141	100	12	12	500	30	46	23	11
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	40	34	22	5			3	150	73	123	40	88

Other large counts (100+) were: GOWER, 260 at Penclawdd on 9th Feb and 100 at Weobley on 18th Sept; FLINT: 100 S of Rhyl on 20th Aug.

Non-breeding inland records were: GWENT: 3 at Llandegfedd Res on 14th Aug, 6 on 19th and two on 31st; BRECON: In spring, one at Llangasty on 14th April. In autumn, 3 at Llangasty on 15th July, 2 there on 14th Aug with one remaining the following day, two on 28th and an adult on 31st. Elsewhere, an adult at Talybont Res on 28th July, and 2 juveniles at Roman Road (Trecastle) on 29th Aug; MONTGOMERY: Singles at Llyn Coed y Dinas on 15th April and at Dolydd Hafren on 31st May.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

(C) A summer visitor, breeding in small numbers on the gravel shoals of rivers in south and east Wales and on industrial sites in north-east Wales. Elsewhere it is an uncommon passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	193
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	57

GWENT: Two at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons from 23rd March, increasing to 6 on 13th April. Two pairs bred here and fledged a total of four young. Elsewhere, three pairs bred at a traditional site on the River Usk, final outcome unknown. Autumn passage began with 11 at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 10th July, with 15 at Goldcliff on 3rd Aug. The last of the year were singles at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons and Llandegfedd Res on 12th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: First reported on 20th March with 3 at Parc Slip. Breeding was confirmed here and at Rhaslas Pond. Display was observed in the western dunes at Kenfig NNR and possible breeding at Incline Top pond, Merthyr Common, where a pair on 25th May was the first record for the site. The last record was 2 at Rhaslas Pond on 1st Aug; GOWER: First recorded on 6th April at Castell Du and 3 at Swansea vale. Present at Swansea vale through the breeding season, max 15+. Last at Whiteford Sands on 16th Aug; CARMARTHEN: The first spring record was of 2 at Dryslwyn on 20th March. No surveys of the breeding population along the Tywi, but a pair with a juv. was seen at Dryslwyn on 31st July. Records away from the core area of the Tywi Valley were of one at Penclacwydd on 19th April, 2 at Cross Hands on 9th June and a juv. at Ginst Point on 27th Aug.; PEMBROKE: One at the Teifi Est. on 10th April; CEREDIGION: The first of the year was one at Llanrhystud on 7th April. There was a good spring passage but no summer or autumn records; BRECON: First were 2 at Llangasty on 6th April. Apart from a possible breeding attempt at Talybont Res, all breeding reports came from disused quarry locations in the eastern Brecon Beacons. A pair at Ystrad Quarry hatched two eggs from a clutch of four, but both chicks were predated. At Blaen Dyffryn Quarry, three pairs probably nested, but only one chick was thought to fledge. Breeding suspected at Blaen Onneu Quarry where an agitated male held territory on 26th May, an agitated pair was present there on 29th June, but no birds were seen on 19th July suggesting the breeding attempt failed. No visits were made to shingle shoals in the Wye valley which usually hold 2-3 pairs. Two visits to shingle banks along the Usk between Llansantffraed and Pencelli failed to find any plovers. Breeding has not been confirmed along this 9km stretch since the disastrous

floods of summer 2012. The last record was at Llangasty on 1st Sept; MONTGOMERY: The first of the year was at Dolydd Hafren on 5th April and the last on 16th Aug on the River Dyfi between Machynlleth and Derwenlas. A breeding species at Dolydd Hafren (as well as locations further south along the River Severn), there were possibly as many as 5 pairs there on 13th May; MEIRIONNYDD: 2 pairs in their usual nesting area at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 27th April, noted in the same area on 16th June. The gap between the dates suggests the birds were successful in breeding to at least the egg stage; CAERNARFON: One on the county border with Meirionnydd on Afon Glaslyn at Pont Croesor on 10th April; ANGLESEY: Singles at Malltraeth Marsh on 19th April and 8th Aug and one at Cemlyn on 20th April; DENBIGH: The first record was one at RSPB Conwy on 31st March and the last was of presence there on 10th Aug; FLINT: The first record was one at Connah's Quay NR on 29th March and the last was 2 there on 16th July. One record of probable breeding and two of confirmed breeding. 2 adults and 3 chicks were ringed near Buckley.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

CORNCHWIGLEN

(C) *Rapidly declining breeder – almost extinct as a breeder in many counties. It is also a winter visitor, principally in coastal areas and especially when there is hard weather to the east. Wales Red listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	2134
% of BirdTrack lists	11
No of 1km squares	359

Breeding records received were: GWENT: 16 pairs attempted to breed at Newport Wetlands, but no young raised. Four pairs held territory at St Brides Wentlooge, with two chicks seen. 4 pairs at Garn-yr-erw, two of which were seen with young, and 4 territorial pairs at Brynmawr, all of which were thought to have failed. Three pairs on territory at Ebbwmouth in May, and two pairs displaying at Rhyd-y-blew. A pair with one fully-fledged youngster at Bryn Serth, and young also recorded at Peterstone Wentlooge and Llanwern. Pairs were seen displaying at Brynithel and Mynydd Machen, but outcome unknown; E. GLAMORGAN: Single pairs bred at five sites: Kenfig Pool, Parc Slip NR, Rumney Great Wharf and at 2 sites near Merthyr Tydfil; CARMARTHEN: A pair bred at Penclacwydd, but no young were fledged. Also bred at Mynydd Sylen, Cross Hands and birds were seen displaying at Pembrey Burrows and in suitable breeding habitat at both Pentre felin and Brynmanan.; PEMBROKE: No breeding records received. Two males on Ramsey but no females; CEREDIGION: Breeding reports were of 9-10 pairs at Cors Caron on 19th April with 7 pairs there on 17th May, a pair near Gwnnws Church on 12th June and 48 pairs bred at RSPB Ynys-hir; BRECON: At Llangorse in wet grassland, 5 pairs, 6+ chicks at 'Rushy field' and 2 pairs at S. Club meadows. Elsewhere, 4 pairs, one chick at Ty Gwyn Farm (winter beans), 3 nests at Gt Porthamel Farm were ploughed, with the 3 pairs moving to Bronllys, 2 pairs, 3+ chicks at Garnlydan (moorland), single pairs at Slwch Farm, Lower Pontwillim Farm and Brechfa Pool, with a male at Llandefalle Hill. Overall the number of young fledged was probably very low; MONTGOMERY: Likely breeding around the Llanidloes area and possibly at Dolydd Hafren; MEIRIONNYDD: 20 adults on territory at Penllyn, Towyn, on 29th April, with 2 ad having 2 chicks each. 15 chicks seen here on 12th

May, with potentially one bird still on territory on 11th Aug. Birds recorded in the Sandilands Farm area, Tywyn on 22nd -24th May could well have been breeders. 3 pairs at Morfa Harlech on 21st May, and on the upper Glaslyn estuary, potential breeding with birds present in the breeding season at Ffridd Fawr, Pont Croesor and the Prenteg area. Up to 16 birds were present at Hafod Uchel, Berwyn, at least 5 pairs but potentially 8 pairs between 25th March and 31st July. One female with one chick here on 31st July, but outcomes of other broods unknown. One displaying bird at Hafod y Garreg, Lliidiardau on 20th March, 3 displaying on 21st March and 4 displaying on 6th April, but no information after this date; CAERNARFON: At Morfa Madryn, an estimated 28 pairs bred, 10 more than in 2014. A total of 50 fledged young were recorded during the last two visits, giving an average of 1.8 chicks fledged per breeding pair, well above the 0.7 chicks per pair estimated to be necessary to maintain the colony. At Morfa Dinlle (RSPB), 51 pairs fledged 26 young. This was the highest number of breeding pairs recorded here, but productivity was down on recent years. Single birds were present at Cors Geirch on 12th and 22nd June; ANGLESEY: A pair were along Afon Crygyl on 9th June and a pair in Traeth Crigyl dunes on 6th June; DENBIGH: Two records of probable breeding; FLINT: Four records of probable breeding and two of confirmed breeding.

Regular counts at the main wintering areas, holding 500+ at least once, were:

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nedern	505	138	2			51	167
	Newport Wetlands	750	2500	109	112	400	619	600
GOWER	Wernffrwd\Llanrhidian\	562	2280	7	60	158	84	900
	Weobley	2010	1100	-	-	-	49	890
	Upper Loughor	571	123	-	-	268	520	770
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	461	850	33	55	74	537	637
	Tywi	626	655			1	134	297
	Taf	2580	450				554	1
PEMBROKE	Cleddau Est.	1187	829		1	223	568	1496
CEREDIGION	Dyfi Est.	1613	1250	620	-	480	1476	1161
	Teifi est	650	280	-	-	-	115	310
MONTGOMERY	Dolydd Hafren	500	1500+				100+	400
MEIRIONNYDD	Morfa Harlech	400+		2		80	200	1023
CAERNARFON	Foryd Bay	300	590		70	190	210	380
ANGLESEY	Malltraeth/Cefni est.		3000	10	32	108	700	860
FLINT (Dee Est.)	White Sands	350	3			98	1000	250
	Oakenholt	300	20			50	300	1000

Other large flocks (500+) were: E. GLAMORGAN: 500 at Norton Farm on 12th Feb; PEMBROKE: In the first winter period 1,500 at Marloes Mere on 4th Jan, 600 to the east of St David's on 4th Jan and 500+ at Chapel Farm, Castlemartin on 21st Jan. In the second winter period, 1,000 at Freshwater West on 23rd Dec; DENBIGH: 800+ near Towyn on 5th Feb and 1,000 near Kinmel Bay on 6th Dec; FLINT: 4,000 on barley stubble at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 12th Feb, 1,300+ at Talacre dunes on 27th Nov and 2,000 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 14th Dec.

KENTISH PLOVER *Anarhynchus alexandrinus*

CWTIAD CAINT

(A) Rare spring and autumn passage migrant. On WRP list.

CEREDIGION: There was a female at Ynyslas on 5th June.**WHIMBREL** *Numenius phaeopus*

COEGYLFNIR

(C) Locally common in coastal counties on spring and autumn passage, scarce inland, small numbers occasionally over-winter. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	688
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	174

Birds on passage were recorded from 21st March to 3rd Nov, or possibly 16th Nov, with small numbers recorded at several sites during June. The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 30 at least once) are tabulated.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Undy foreshore				34	4		6	8	5			
Peterstone Wentlooge				48	64	4	3	11	4		1	
GOWER												
Wernffrwd					43		20	5				
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			1	23	34	3	3	10	2	2	2	2

Other large counts (30+) were: GWENT: 34 at Collister Pill on 19th April; GOWER: 64 at Salthouse pill on 6th May, 43 at Loughor Bridge on 4th May, 31 at Blackpill on 30th April with 97 there on 7th May and 40 at Crymlyn Burrows on 9th May. On return passage, 43 at Weobley on 31st July and 54 at Whiteford on 5th Aug; CARMARTHEN: The best spring count was of c.50 at Cefn Padrig on 23rd April; PEMBROKE: In spring 55 at Freshwater West on 30th April, 50+ at Bosherston Lakes on 29th April and 40 at The Gann on 5th May, and in autumn 30 passing Strumble Head on 23rd Aug; CEREDIGION: A strong spring passage with peak counts of 43 at Glandwr on 21st April, 127 at Ynyslas on 4th May with 200+ at Llanrhystud on the same date and 33 at Teifi est. on 9th May. Unusually, there were 18 inland at Cross Inn on 13th May; FLINT: 32 south of Rhyl on 4th May.

Wintering records were: GOWER: One at SS5395 on 16th Nov may have been wintering or a very late migrant; CARMARTHEN: One at Pwll on 24th Jan., with one there again from 7th Dec. into 2016; PEMBROKE: A single bird on Skokholm on 10th, 13th and 30th March was assumed to be overwintering, as was one here throughout Oct and Nov; CEREDIGION: The wintering bird from 2014 remained on the Dyfi throughout Jan and Feb, usually seen along the Clettwr or at RSPB Ynys-hir; CAERNARFON: There were two mainland winter records, one at Foryd on 6th Jan and possibly the same bird at Aber Ogwen on 11th Jan. There were no observers on Bardsey in Jan and Feb, but one in March had presumably overwintered there. Two birds again wintered on Bardsey in the second winter period; ANGLESEY: One at Cemlyn from 1st Jan to 17th March, one at Moelfre on 9th Jan.

Inland records were: E. GLAMORGAN: 2 at Rhaslas Pond on 29th April, one at Mynydd Ty-talwyn, Maesteg, on 30th April and one at Llan/Lis Res on 15th May; BRECON: All spring records from Llangasty, the first on 24th April, followed by 2 on 29th, one flying over on 2nd May, 2 on 9th, and a flock of 10 on 11th May. In autumn record one over Llangynidr on 3rd Aug; MONTGOMERY: One at Dolydd Hafren on 19th April, 2 here on 26th April and one on 30th April; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Llyn Tegid on 12th April.

CURLEW *Numenius arquatus*

GYLFINIR

(C) A fairly common and widespread but declining breeding species throughout most of Wales, and an abundant winter visitor mainly to coastal areas, where small numbers are present all year round. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3386
% of BirdTrack lists	19
No of 1km squares	574

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: One pair was noted near Brynmawr throughout March but breeding failed. A couple of other records suggested possible breeding but nothing confirmed; E. GLAMORGAN: No reports of confirmed breeding, but considered probable near Rhaslas Pond, where up to 2 birds on multiple dates between March and June. Display and mating in the Bargoed area on 17th April, and birds here during the breeding season. Display was also noted near Bedlinog on 3rd June; CARMARTHEN: Two were displaying at Whitemill on 28th April and one in suitable breeding habitat at Mynydd Llanybydder on 7th May; PEMBROKE: Three pairs bred on Skomer; CEREDIGION: Breeding season reports from Cors Ian NR, nr. Gwnnws Church, Rhos Y Gell and nr. Nant Y Moch; BRECON: Some breeding sites were re-occupied from the first week in March (Pencelli and Traeth Mawr). Other breeding sites with 1-3 displaying birds were Llanddew, Llanfrynach village, Cefn Llechid (agitated in spring barley), Llyn Dwr, Drovers Arms (Epynt), Llanfihangel Talyllyn Common, Neuadd Farm (Llanfihangel Talyllyn), by the Rhiangoll at Felindre, Brechfa Pool, Three Cocks and Glasbury (south). The only successful breeding report was near Brechfa Pool where an agitated adult guarded one juvenile on 16th July; RADNOR: Just one pair of 14 monitored raised young; MONTGOMERY: 3 pairs around Lake Vyrnwy, but despite protection failed to fledge any young. Possible breeding in the Castle Caereinion area with 3 birds present there at the end of May; MEIRIONNYDD: At least one calling around in the mountains above Rhiwbryfdir on the evening of 5th March, the first of the returning mountain breeders. The only other record from the N and NW was one singing at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 27th April. Most breeding records came from the Berwyn, where one calling from Blaen Llynor on 15th April. at least 3-4 territories at Sirior on 21st April, birds singing at Carrog Uchaf and at Rhagatt on 1st May, one at Moel Fferna on the same date and a nesting pair at Rhaneg on 5th May. In total, one confirmed pair and 10-11 probable/possible pairs; CAERNARFON: Two pairs on territory at Gwaun Gynfi on 26th April. Other birds likely to have been breeding were one at Bryn Bras, Migneint, on 22nd May, two on the Migneint above Ysbyty Ifan on 12th June, one in long grass at Morfa Madryn on 18th May and 9th June, one at Cors Gyfelog on 27th June and one calling above Llanfairfechan on 14th July; ANGLESEY: 2

displaying at Cors Erddreiniog on 18th March and a breeding pair here on 18th April. A pair bred at Mallaeth Marsh with 2 fledged young seen on 2nd July; DENBIGH: 14 records of possible breeding and six of probable breeding; FLINT: One record of probable breeding.

Occurs in all Welsh estuaries and the monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 500 at least once) are tabulated.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Undy foreshore	480	349	394	56	7	21	500	514	360	350	450	442
GOWER												
Weobley	70	194	53	-	-	-	562	808	395	172	274	76
CARMARTHEN												
Pendacwydd	302	267	132	61	28	6	566	500	633	317	146	183
Gwendraeth	94	54	8	-	-	57	500	-	66	264	133	125
PEMBROKE												
Cledau Est.	357	380	127				1923		232	346	316	293
CEREDIGION												
Dyfi Est.	930	320	280	127	-	-	361	496	390	620	804	609
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	1141	1150	619	320			600	3700	4000	1270	752	1183
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	500	350	300	450	32	120	850	1200	1000	350	600	350

Large counts (500+) elsewhere were: FLINT: 1,000+ at the gas terminal at Talacre on 21st Feb.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU

(C) A common spring and autumn passage migrant; it is common to abundant and increasing in winter on the Dee. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1106
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	130

The monthly max. at the main sites (holding 50 or more at least once) are given in the table below. Other large counts (50+) were: GOWER: 70 at Upper Loughor on 16th Nov; PEMBROKE: In the first winter period max 73 at Pembroke Upper Millpond on 4th March and 72 at Llanstadwell on 22nd Jan, and in the second winter period, up to 86 at Cosheston Pill; FLINT: During the first half of the year the max count was 770 at Connah's Quay NR on 6th Jan and 400 at Border Pool, RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 10th May. In the autumn, 200 at Shotton Steelworks pool and in the second winter period 2,000 at Flint on 2nd Dec.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Newport Wetlands	13	62	86	123	10	4	50	22	73	260	149	2
GOWER												
Penclawdd\Dalton's Point	498	185	141	6	40	-	27	-	550	530	9	245
Morfa Bacas	94	21	-	1	82	-	36	250	10	20	-	-
Loughor Bridge	21	17	244	10	5	15	9	3	15	-	-	-
CARMARTHEN												
Penclawdydd	448	415	423	490	400	289	470	617	774	726	314	406
Tywi	100	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau WeBS	32	22	44				2		10	92	47	16
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	1								4	4000		
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	120		680	640		3	2	150	200	200	3500	300

Inland records were: BRECON: Singles at Brechfa Pool 14th – 16th April and at Llangasty on 5th June. In autumn one at Llangasty on 19th July; MONTGOMERY: One at Llyn Coed y Dinas on 17th July.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*

RHOSTOG GYNFFONFRITH

(C) A common passage migrant and winter visitor, more numerous in autumn than spring. Rare away from the coasts but has been recorded in all inland counties. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	172
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	79

Small numbers occur in most coastal counties but the monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 50 at least once) are tabulated as available.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Newport		8	70	29	4	2	6	1	3	29	4	
GOWER												
Penclawdd	190	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	30	86	43	-
Crofty	-	23	30	59	-	-	-	8	23	-	2	23
CARMARTHEN												
Penclawdydd	-	1	-	58	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
ANGLESEY												
Alaw est	106	91				2	2	2		12		
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	7		4			7	9	2	17	62	12	13

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

CWTIAD Y TRAETH

(C) A passage migrant in spring and autumn but most abundant in winter. A few non-breeding birds are present throughout the summer. It is rare inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	849
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	230

Monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 50 at least once):

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
E. GLAMORGAN												
Sker Pt area	35	41	26	8	14	-	29	78	35	62	15	45
Sully beach	20	56	-	15	-	-	3	2	30	-	24	14
GOWER												
Mumbles Head\Pier	34	8	7	-	1	1	6	105	120	88	52	52
Whiteford	69	35	-	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-
Swansea Docks E.\ W pier	39	9	30						65			70
CARMARTHEN												
Burry Port	15				8	2	3	7	5	87	7	
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est.	31	9	7						3	36		84
CEREDIGION												
Aberaeron												
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			5	3	6	7	26	73	67	41	16	24
Foryd	80	90	70	3	16			25	87	39	90	120
Llandudno pier	110	105	100	70	55		30	40	60	80	90	130
Rhos Point	194	100	30	61			30	55	2	60	6	60
Lower Conwy est	13	14		68				2	15	13		64
Traeth Lafan	25	80	50				4	113	124	118	9	114
ANGLESEY												
Cemlyn	10			11	10	1	22	71	8			

Other counts of 50 or more were: GOWER: 116 at Blackpill on 22nd Feb; DENBIGH: 150+ near Kinnel Bay on 4th April, then 145+ near Kinnel Bay on 29th July increasing to a late year maximum of 338 here; FLINT: 266 at Rhyl harbour on 4th Oct.

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

PIBYDD YR ABER

(C) A common winter visitor to some of the major estuaries, but relatively scarce elsewhere, also a passage migrant in spring & autumn. Rare inland. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	313
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	87

Numbers have generally been low in the past few years, with a particularly marked

decrease noted in GWENT. The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 300 at least once) are tabulated as available.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GOWER												
Penclawdd Dalton's Pt	3800	140	125	-	-	-	-	-	550	1120	-	-
Crofty\ Salthouse Point	26	580	227	1	-	-	-	2	16	500	300	1300
Llanrhidian\Wernffrwd	400	1800	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2000	2600
Weobley	190	300	-	42	-	-	-	7	-	-	1620	2600
Whiteford	200	364	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	300
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	1000	112	26	4	30	-	1	250	892	1105	800	600
Cefn Sidan/ Tywyn Pt.	700	3806	5	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	6	-
CAERNARFON												
Foryd	38	4	380									100
FLINT												
Dee: Point of Ayr	2000	1500	900			4				1500	4000	1000

81 on Bardsey CAERNARFON on 28th Aug was the highest number ever recorded here.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

PIBYDD TORCHOG

(B) A fairly common passage migrant in small numbers, principally in autumn. Occasionally winters. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	125
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	32

Approximate monthly totals were:

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT		1	10		1		1	10	16	2		
E. GLAMORGAN									3			
GOWER			1	3	1		1	1				
CARMARTHEN				1		3		8	4	1		
PEMBROKE					1	1	1+	8+	1+	1+		
CEREDIGION								1		1		
CAERNARFON				1				6	1			
ANGLESEY						2	1	12	12	8		
DENBIGH									1			
FLINT	10	2						1+	3+			

High counts included 9 at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons GWENT on 6th March and on return passage here, peaks of 12 to 16 birds around 10th to 13th Sept; The highest count elsewhere was 10 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands FLINT on 24th Jan, with 5 on the Alaw Estuary ANGLESEY on 23rd Aug and 5 at Carmel Head ANGLESEY on 5th Sept.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

PIBYDD CAMBIG

(B) An uncommon passage migrant to coastal areas, recorded in every month but principally in autumn, relatively numerous in some years. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	75
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	17

This was not a particularly good year for this species. GWENT: All records from NWR Goldcliff Lagoons. The first was on 28th April with probably the same bird again on 30th April and then through to 3rd May, with another bird on 15th-17th May. In June, one on 10th and 1-3, probably on return passage, present until 18th June, then one on 25th June but no more until one on 17th-20th July and an adult on 23rd-26th July. A few records continued until two on 13th Sept and one on 18th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: One juvenile at Newton Beach on 9th Sept; GOWER: Only one record this year, one at Salthouse pill on 30th Sept; CARMARTHEN: One at Penclacwydd on 9th-10th Sept, 2 at both Kidwelly Quay on 29th and Penclacwydd on 3rd and 7th Oct; PEMBROKE: An adult in summer plumage on Skokholm on 10th July and a juv at Nevern Est on 27th Aug; CEREDIGION: One at RSPB Ynys-hir on 6th May; CAERNARFON: Two at Morfa Madryn on 1st Aug and reported present at Pwllheli on 10th Aug; ANGLESEY: Singles in summer plumage at Cemlyn on 12th-13th May and on Traeth Crigyll on 17th-19th June. On return passage, 2 at Cemlyn on 2nd and 5th Aug, 12th and 15th Sept, and 14th Oct; FLINT: 8 records of singles or presence between 3rd Sept at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and 19th Sept at Rhyl.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii*

PIBYDD TEMMINCK

(A) Passage migrant, on WRP list.

GWENT: One on 25th-28th July at Newport Wetlands; DENBIGH: A single was recorded on 7th-8th Sept at RSPB Conwy.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

PIBYDD Y TYWOD

(C) A winter visitor, locally common on sandy beaches in Flint, Carmarthen and Glamorgan. A spring & autumn migrant on the coast. Scarce inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	263
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	105

The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 50 at least once) are tabulated as available:

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
E. GLAMORGAN												
Kenfig Sands	-	63	-	-	14	-	-	7	20	-	-	-
Porthcawl area	50	P	64	3	-	-	-	5	25	35	20	-
Sker area	25	71	87	-	10	-	26	25	18	40	7	-
GOWER												
Crymlyn Burrows	350	210	362	150	-	6	-	358	279	184	80	256
Aberavon beach	96	-	215	120	-	-	-	147	-	-	155	-
Whiteford	245	23	-	-	-	35	-	30	-	-	42	-
Swansea Bay	130										80	136
CARMARTHEN												
Pembrey Harbour	20	-	63	40	17	-	80	100	22	-	-	42
Cefn Sidan/ Tywyn Pt.	447	404	544	-	200	-	-	200	1050	1000	-	-
CAERNARFON												
Lower Conwy est	65	42	85	46	1				5	30	40	32

Other flocks of 50+ were GOWER: 116 at Port Eynon on 7th Feb; PEMBROKE: 75 at Bluckspool/Frainslake Sands on 13th Sept; DENBIGH: 200+ at Kinmel Bay on 25th Jan, 80+ here on 1st and 19th March, 115+ at Kinmel Bay on 25th Oct, 120 at Horton's Nose on 7th Dec and 65 there on 28th Dec; FLINT: 180+ at Talacre on 19th Jan, 125 at Point of Ayr on 4th Feb. In autumn, 50 at Point of Ayr on 11th Oct.

Records in inland counties were: BRECON: A single acquiring summer plumage was at Llangasty on 5th May, and another in summer plumage on the point on 31st May.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

PIBYDD Y MAWN

(C) A scarce and local breeder, restricted to a few poorly drained upland moors with scattered pools. An abundant passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1361
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	246

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: BRECON: Two potential breeding areas were checked in summer. A male was in a traditional territory in the Black Mountains on 21st April. Three visits to Abergwesyn Common in the Elenydd revealed two separate 'scurrying' birds in suitable habitat on 4th May, with an agitated adult at one of these on 18th June.

Occurs in all Welsh estuaries and the monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 1,000 at least once) are tabulated as available:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Undy foreshore	1950	1629		13			23	7		90	204	310
NWR	3200	1500	62	120	360	16	200	500	250	729	775	312
Peterstone Wentlloge	3000	2000	240	193	200	34	7	15	25	75	220	720
E. GLAMORGAN												
Rhymney Est	740	2300	150	-	-	-	6	1	-	100	500	1000
Rumney Gt Wharf	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	1000	-
GOWER												
Daltons Point\ Penclawdd	1080	1380	80	-	186	-	-	1	10	200	12	-
Weobley	2940	390	-	-	-	-	30	340	350	-	6200	2400
Wernffrwd\Llanrhidian	500	1003	250	-	-	-	--	-	-	-	-	280
Blackpill	1000	280	-	50	150	-	-	4	-	-	4	-
CARMARTHEN												
Gwendraeth	1520	1200	171				28	3	12	179	350	407
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est.	2207	2051	501				3		95	418	233	1646
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	1192	1700	216	10	10		40	26	192	108	582	3807
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	4000	3000	2500		1665	5	26	12	300	100	400	6000
RSPB Oakenholt Marsh	3000	2500	20	12	5		4	120	60	40	3000	600

Flocks of 1,000+ elsewhere were: FLINT: 7,500 at Connah's Quay NR on 23rd Jan.

Inland sightings included: CARMARTHEN: One at Dryslwyn on 30th April and 2 at Usk Res. on 28th May; CEREDIGION: One at Cors Caron on 19th and 21st Aug; BRECON: Spring passage of 1-2 birds to 5th May. On autumn passage one at Llangorse Lake on 25th Aug; MONTGOMERY: One at Dolydd Hafren on 28th April, 9 on 30th Aug and 2 on 22nd Nov.

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima*

PIBYDD DU

(C) A fairly common winter visitor in small numbers to coastal areas with rocky shorelines. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	98
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	38

This species appears to be declining in Wales, with counts at most of the regular sites down in recent years. The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 10 at least once) are tabulated as available:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E. GLAMORGAN												
Ogmore-by-Sea	12	7	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sker Pt area	3	8	4	16	6	-	-	-	-	5	1	4
GOWER												
Port Eynon\ Sedger's Bk	7	9	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	5
PEMBROKE												
Skomer			18								1	
CEREDIGION												
Aberystwyth	15											9
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			26	13	5	1	2	9	5	3	3	14
Rhos Point	13	12	3	2								5
ANGLESEY												
Trearddur Bay	2	15	8									
Cemlyn	8	15	2		5			2		1	4	

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

PIBYDD BACH

(B) An uncommon passage migrant in small numbers to coastal areas, principally in autumn and has occasionally wintered. It is rare inland. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	100
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	29

GWENT: Virtually all of the records came from NWR Goldcliff Lagoons, starting with one on 26th-27th July then two on 31st. In Aug, two on 9th, a moulting adult on 12th, another two birds on 13th and singletons again on 27th and 30th. In Sept, two juvs on 10th-19th and on 20th-26th three birds present, going to two on 27th and a single on 28th with perhaps the same bird off Goldcliff Point. Two on 29th Sept and 3 on 30th and through to 3rd Oct, with two birds on 10th, 12th and 14th Oct. The last of the year were two on 30th Oct; GOWER: One at Whiteford Sands on 16th Aug, two here on 14th Sept and one on 20th Sept. Singles at Penclawdd Pill on 6th Sept and at Staffal Haegr on 29th Sept; CARMARTHEN: In Jan there were single birds at Penclacwydd on 10th and Kidwelly Quay on 18th. Autumn passage records were of one at Ginst Point on 30th Aug., 2 at Pembrey Harbour on 10th Sept., 1 at Cefn Padrig on 1st Oct. and 2 at Ginst Point on 15th Nov.; PEMBROKE: Juveniles in August on Skokholm on 23rd-24th and at Newport on 29th-30th; CEREDIGION: At Ynyslas there was one on 23rd Aug, two on 30th Aug, 7 on 31st Aug and one trapped and ringed on 16th Sept; CAERNARFON: There was one at Felinheli on 12th Aug and a juvenile at Pwllheli on 6th-9th Sept; ANGLESEY: One at Cemlyn on 11th May; DENBIGH: One at RSPB Conwy on 20th Sept; FLINT: Singles were recorded at Rhyl on 8th Sept, RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 12th Sept and Connah's Quay NR on 13th Sept.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*

PIBYDD CAIN

(A) A scarce visitor, on WRP list.

CARMARTHEN: An adult at Penclacwydd on 11th May was the 5th record for the site;
 ANGLESEY: One at Cemlyn on 13th May .

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*

LLYDANDROED GYDDFGOCH

(A) Vagrant, on WRP list.

GWENT: One at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 4th-5th June was the fifth record for the county and the first in nine years; PEMBROKE: Two summer plumaged birds on Skokholm on 9th-10th June were the first record for Skokholm, the first spring record for the county and the first county record since 1983.

GREY PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius*

LLYDANDROED LLWYD

(B) An uncommon and irregular passage migrant, predominantly to coastal areas and in the period September – October.

No of BirdTrack records	45
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	19

GWENT: One at Ynysfro Res on 15th-16th Sept and one, possibly the same bird, on the Peterstone foreshore on 19th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Kenfig Pool on 24th Dec, possibly the same bird at Sker Pool on 27th-30th Dec; GOWER: A juvenile to 1st winter bird on Broad Pool on 15th Sept and one at Baglan Bay on 11th Dec; PEMBROKE: A single bird at St. Bride's 26th-28th Dec. At Strumble Head a total of 10 birds recorded, 7 on 31st Aug, one on 5th Sept and two on 21st Nov; CAERNARFON: Single 1st winter birds on Bardsey on 25th Sept and 31st Dec and one bird at Morfa Bychan on 26th Dec.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

PIBYDD Y DORLAN

(C) A summer visitor that breeds in all counties except Pembroke, albeit sporadically on Anglesey and Flint. Very small numbers over-winter. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	713
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	230

Records of wintering birds were GWENT: Birds recorded in Feb at Gobion and between Newbridge and Llanllowel on the Usk; E. GLAMORGAN: One at the Ogmere est in Jan - Feb and again Nov - Dec; GOWER: Wintering at Eglwys Nunydd res and one at Swansea Vale east on 8th Feb; CARMARTHEN: One at North Dock on 11th Jan; PEMBROKE: Singles at Sandy Haven on 2nd Jan, at Skrinkle on 9th Jan and at Freshwater East on 12th Feb. Two in the Cleddau est in Jan, one here in Dec; CEREDIGION: One at RSPB Ynys-hir from 21st

Oct seen on 15th and 20th Dec; BRECON: One at Ffordd Fawr on 8th Feb probably overwintered on the Wye; MONTGOMERY: Singles at Caersws on 24th Jan and the Upper Dyfi Estuary on 24th Jan and 1st & 3rd Feb; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Tallyllyn on 18th Jan and one on the Mawddach on 22nd Jan; CAERNARFON: One at Foryd on 1st Jan and 3rd Feb.

Breeding records for this species are incomplete. GWENT: Two possible breeding pairs at Trefil and three possible territories between Llanellen and The Bryn on the River Usk; E. GLAMORGAN: Probable breeding at Incline Top near Merthyr, where a pair displayed agitated behaviour on 14th June; GOWER: Bred at The Quays NPT, possibly bred at Aberdulais basin and present at Afan valley in the breeding season; CEREDIGION: Breeding pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir, at Nant Y Moch and at Llyn Syfydrin; BRECON: 5 territories along the Usk (Pencelli - Newton Farm) were already occupied by 9 birds on 25th April, with 8 there on 14th June. Breeding pairs at Pont Dolgoch (R. Towy), Cwm Llia (2), Talybont Reservoir, and on the Usk at Brynich and Glangrwyney. Territories were occupied at Usk Reservoir, Upper Neuadd Reservoir, Ystradfellte, Garnlydan Quarry and at Llanfaes (Brecon); MONTGOMERY: Not a good breeding season at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy, due to high water levels; MEIRIONNYDD: Confirmed breeding records were single pairs at the Dwyrdd est, Llyn Trawsfynydd, Dol y Clochydd (Aber Mawddach), Llyn Tanygrisiau and on the Dyfrdwy at Corwen. Probable or possible breeding was recorded at another 23 sites; CAERNARFON: 1-3 birds were recorded in the breeding season at 12 sites.

Passage was recorded from 7th March and until at least 1st Nov. Passage max. GWENT: 6 at Llandegfedd Res on 29th April. On return passage, 8 at Llandegfedd Res on 18th July; E. GLAMORGAN: 15 at Llanilid on 26th April. On return passage, 8 at the Ogmere est in July and 7 in Aug; GOWER: 10 at Fendrod Lake on 11th Aug and 11 at Crofty Marsh on 31st Aug; CARMARTHEN: 11 at Kidwelly Marsh on 31st Aug. and 13 at Kidwelly Quay on 6th Sept; PEMBROKE: 9 at Nevern Est on 22nd April. On return passage, 15 in the Cleddau est in July, 15 in the Linney Burrows/Bluckspool area on 6th Sept; BRECON: 4 at Glasbury on 25th Aug; CEREDIGION: 8 at Llansantffraed on 15th July; MEIRIONNYDD: 5 on Llyn Tegid on 18th April; CAERNARFON: 7 on Afon Conwy at Tal-y-cafn on 13th April. On return passage, 21 on Bardsey on 14th July; ANGLESEY: 6 at Cemlyn on 27th-28th April. On return passage 16 on Afon Cefni near Malltraeth on 6th Aug; DENBIGH: 6 at Llyn Aled Isaf on 4th July; FLINT: 10 at Flint saltmarsh on 27th April, 10 S of Rhyl on 5th July and a remarkable 32 at Shotton Steelworks pool on 16th July.

GREEN SANDPIPER *T. ochropus*

PIBYDD GWYRDD

(C) *A regular passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	160
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	62

Wintering records (Dec – Feb) were: GWENT: 3 on the Usk between Llanllowell and Newbridge in Jan and 2 in Feb, one at Llanfair Kilgeddin in Feb and 4 at Gobion on 8th Feb, while on the Monnow there were two at Llangua in Jan and 3 here on 1st March. There was one on the Usk between Llanllowell and Newbridge in Nov and Dec. and 3 near the Racehorse Inn, Waun Afon in Nov and Dec; E. GLAMORGAN: 5 on the River Ely at

Pendoylan/Peterston in Jan, 7 there in Feb and March. One south of Cowbridge on 2nd Jan, one at Hendre Lake on 6th and 26th Jan. Reported as 'present' at Ogmore Est on 22nd Jan and 2nd Feb, and one there on 8th Feb, 2 at Llanilid on 7th March, and one there on 24th March. In the second winter period, 5 on the River Ely at Pendoylan/Peterston in Nov and Dec; GOWER: One at Castell Du on 22nd Jan with 2 here on 1st Feb, and singles at Red Jacket Pill on 31st Jan and Landimore on 8th March. In the second winter period, 4 at Llanrhidian Marsh on 1st Nov, one at Crofty Marsh on 16th Dec and one at Staffal Haegr to 31st Dec; CARMARTHEN: In the early winter period, 2 at Coedbach on 21st Jan. and one along the Tywi at Carmarthen on 21st Feb; PEMBROKE: The only reports were from Sealyham, where up to two birds were present until 5th April. In the second winter period, up to two birds here from mid-Aug to the end of the year; CEREDIGION: Recorded at RSPB Ynys-hir on 5th Jan and 6th Feb and at Cors Caron on 22nd Jan and 13th Feb; BRECON: 2 by the Llynfi at Great Porthamel on 11th Oct, 2 by the Usk at Scethrog on 20th Oct and one on the Camlais brook on 4th Nov were thought to be intending to winter; MONTGOMERY: One at Caersws on 24th Jan, also records from Dolydd Hafren and Llyn Coed y Dinas; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Penrhyndeudraeth sewage works on 5th Feb and 16th March; ANGLESEY: One on the Alaw est on 1st Dec; DENBIGH: 2 on the Afon Clwyd near Llandyrnog on 18th Jan and 8th Feb, one at Trevalyn Meadows on 21st Nov; FLINT: A single at Fagl Lane GP on 11th Jan then another single at Shotwick Fields on 25th Jan.

Passage maxima (3+) were: GWENT: 4 on the Usk at Gobion on 19th July and 4 here in Oct. Elsewhere, 3 at Peterstone Wentlooge in Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: 6 on the River Ely at Pendoylan/Peterston in Sept; GOWER: On spring passage, 3 at Staffal Haegr on 16th June. On return passage max 7 at Staffal Haegr on 3rd July and 12 here on 2nd Aug. 4 at Pont y Cob on 8th Sept; CARMARTHEN: 4 at Dryslwyn on 20th March; CEREDIGION: 5 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 17th July with up to 5 seen there almost daily to 28th Oct. At Cors Caron, 3 on 19th Aug and 4 on 21st Aug; MONTGOMERY: 4 on the Upper Dyfi Estuary on 4th Oct; ANGLESEY: 4 at Malltraeth on 4th-14th Aug, 3 on the Alaw at Llanfachraeth on 23rd Aug; FLINT: 8 at Shotton Steelworks pool on 1st Sept.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

(B) *An uncommon but regular passage migrant to coastal counties chiefly in autumn. Small numbers over-winter on the Dee, Burry and Cleddau. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	412
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	36

Monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 10 at least once or at least 4 in winter) were:

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	3	4	2	4	1			2	3	3	4	2
FLINT												
Connah's Quay NR		23								25	26	

Other winter records were: GWENT: In the first winter period birds were recorded on 11 days in Jan and Feb at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons with three on 11th Jan. In the second winter period, birds were recorded here to 23rd Nov with a single in Dec on 13th; GOWER: Singles at Daltons Point on 4th-5th Jan and at Loughor Bridge from 28th Jan to 11th March; CARMARTHEN: One at Kidwelly Quay on 11th Dec.; CEREDIGION: Ynys-hir's regular wintering bird was seen in Jan and from 30th Oct to the end of the year; MEIRIONNYDD: One on the Glaslyn Estuary on 16th Jan; CAERNARFON: One at Aber Ogwen on 11th Jan and one at Morfa Madryn on 14th and 21st Feb. In the second winter period, 3 at Aber Ogwen on 16th Dec; ANGLESEY: One on the Cefni at Malltraeth on 25th Jan and from 14th Feb into April. One at Malltraeth bridge on 30th Dec.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT (min)	3	1	3	4	1	1	5	1	2	4	2	1
E. GLAMORGAN				1								
GOWER	2	1	2									
CARMARTHEN	3	4	2	4	1			3	3	3	4	3
CEREDIGION	1							2		1	1	1
BRECON								3				
MEIRIONNYDD	1											
CAERNARFON	1	1								1		3
ANGLESEY	1	1	1	1				1	1			1
DENBIGH									1	1		

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

PIBYDD COESWERDD

(C) Locally common in coastal areas on passage, chiefly in autumn, uncommon inland. Small numbers over-winter. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	874
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	124

The monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 15+ at least once or 8+ in winter) are tabulated below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd	10	14	7	14	2	2	27	62	77	43	17	8
Gwendraeth	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	24	31	-	13	20
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est.	15	16	12				14		17	28	20	8
CAERNARFON												
Foryd	8	6	6	5			4	7	12	14	8	6
FLINT												
Connah's Quay NR	10	10						17			23	11

Other winter records were: GWENT: 4 at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons in Jan, 2 here in Feb, 5

on 3rd March and two in Dec; GOWER: Two at Daltons Point\ Penclawdd from 2nd Jan with 4 at Weobley on 21st Feb. Singles at Castell Du on 22nd Jan and Staffal Haegr on 2nd Jan. In the second winter period, one at Daltons Point on 22nd Nov, 5 at SS5495 on 22nd Nov and one at Penclawdd Pill on 20th Dec; CARMARTHEN: One at Burry Port Harbour on 8th Jan, 2 at Pembrey Harbour on 17th and 29th, PEMBROKE: In the first winter period, 1-2 birds widely reported. Up to three at the Nevern Est from 7th to 24th March and up to four at Hook/Sprinkle Pill in Jan and Feb. In the 2nd winter period, 1-2 birds widely reported, max 4 at Hook/Sprinkle Pill on 14th Nov; CEREDIGION: Up to three in the first winter period, mainly at Glandwr, Ynyslas and the Leri area with the last record on 8th March. In the second winter period, one at Ynyslas on 30th Nov with one at the Teifi est. on 6th Dec; MEIRIONNYDD: 2 on the Glaslyn/Dwryd est in Feb and March, with 2 again here in Dec; CAERNARFON: Max 5 at Aber Ogwen in January, two in Bangor harbour in February and March, two at Morfa Madryn Jan – Feb with 3 in March, one at Porthmadog in Jan and March, one at Borth-y-gest on 24th Jan and 21st Feb and one on Afon Seiont at Caernarfon on 1st March. In the 2nd winter period, 5 at Aber Ogwen and two at Bangor harbour in Dec, with 5 between Plas Menai and Caernarfon on 23rd Dec; ANGLESEY: In the first winter period, 5 in Holyhead Bay on 8th Jan, 4 on the Alaw estuary in Jan with 3 here in Feb, one at Cemlyn in Jan and Feb, one at Traeth Dulas on 4th Jan and 4th Feb and one at Valley Doors on 15th Feb. In the 2nd winter period, 2 were regular at Malttraeth Cob at the close of the year and one on flooded fields at Silver Bay on 13th - 20th Dec; DENBIGH: Recorded at RSPB Conwy in Jan - March.

Inland records were: BRECON: On spring passage, one at Llangasty on 5th – 6th May. A presumed failed breeder migrating south on 19th June at Llangasty, and one at Talybont Reservoir on 5th July. Singles at Llangasty on 12th and 16th July; MONTGOMERY: One at Dolydd Hafren on 12th April.

Approximate monthly totals were:

	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>
GWENT	4	2	6	4	3		10	15	16	12	7	2
E. GLAMORGAN				2			4	7	1			
GOWER	4	4		4			3	4	3		6	1
CARMARTHEN	15	15	11	14	2	2	27	86	110	46	33	28
CEREDIGION	3	3	3	2	1		1+	6+	3+		1	1
BRECON					1	1	3					
MONTGOMERY				3						3		
MEIRIONNYDD	1	2	2					2	5	2		2
CAERNARFON	17	14	19	7	0	4	17	17	32	25	17	18
ANGLESEY	12	7	11	6	1	5	12	26	15	10	9	7

Elsewhere: PEMBROKE: Max 13 at Hook/Sprinkle Pill on 18th Oct.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

PIBYDD Y GRAEAN

(B) A scarce passage migrant recorded in every county, principally in the autumn but with a scattering of spring records.

No of BirdTrack records	42
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	17

GWENT: A 1st calendar year bird at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 24th July and a 1st-year bird there 15th-18th Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Ogmore est on 24th and 25th July and a juv at Llanilid on 17th Aug; GOWER: Singles at Staffal Haegr on 24th-26th April and a juv from 18th-30th Aug; PEMBROKE: All reports were of single birds on autumn passage in Aug: at Skokholm and Marloes Mere on 7th, two on Skomer on 11th, at Marloes Mere on the 12th, at The Gann on 13th, two on Skokholm on 23rd and finally another on 30th Aug; CEREDIGION: Singles at Ynyslas on 16th April and at Cors Caron on 1st May. On return passage, one at Glandwr on 15th Aug and one at RSPB Ynys-hir on 31st Aug; CAERNARFON: One on Bardsey on 13th June was the first here for almost a decade. A first-autumn bird at Dinas Dinlle on 21st Aug; ANGLESEY: One flew over Mynydd Bodafon on 31st Aug.

REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

PIBYDD COESGOCH

(C) A scarce and declining breeding species, confined chiefly to salt-marshes but with a few pairs inland. Abundant wintering population. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2740
% of BirdTrack lists	15
No of 1km squares	361

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: Three records of young, all coastal. A pair with one chick at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 6th June and a pair with four chicks there on 23rd June. A bird sitting on eggs here on 14th March, outcome unknown. Two adults with two young at Peterstone Wharf on 22nd June; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding at Rumney Great Wharf where 2 ads were seen with 2 juvs on 22nd June; CEREDIGION: Bred at Cors Fochno, three pairs bred on the salt marsh between RSPB Ynys-hir and the Afon Ddu a pair were present at Cors Caron and 41 pairs bred at RSPB Ynys-hir; MONTGOMERY: Successfully bred on the Upper Dyfi Estuary but numbers reduced by heavy rain and large tides on 6th May and 2nd June; MEIRIONNYDD: 3 on Morfa Dyffryn saltmarsh probably on territory. A pair at Penmaenpool were on territory within the managed area on 23rd April. Two birds were showing agitated behaviour over the saltmarsh on the Arto/Mochras on 10th June, suggesting territory here; CAERNARFON: A pair bred at Morfa Madryn, and was seen with 3 half-grown chicks on 22nd June, with at least two chicks close to fledging seen on 2nd July. This is the first confirmed breeding in the county for several years; FLINT: There was one record of probable breeding.

Occurs in all Welsh estuaries and the monthly max. at the main sites (holding counts of 300 at least once) were:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT												
Peterstone Wntlooge	177	200	290	100	4	34	77	148	240	462	270	170
Ebbwmouth HT roost	125	230	157				48	3	210	462	380	130
E. GLAMORGAN												
Rhymney Est	410	500	800	50	-	-	400	290	-	1000	245	500
CARMARTHEN												
Gwendraeth	32	76	31				350	307	180		200	42
Penclacwydd	37	33	101	302	1	3	77	250	423	286	196	582
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est.	640	469	314				245		160	467	475	510
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	833	1072	1030	12	110	4	20	200	430	878	1093	1140
DENBIGH												
RSPB Conwy	482	359+	439	350+		4	275	480	710	347	634	342
FLINT												
Point of Ayr	200	100	100	12			70	50	100	400	2200	1100
Mostyn Dock		34	155					1100		25	69	6
Oakenholt Marsh	60	100	400	40	2		40	200	400	1000	2000	500
Connah's Quay NR	24	85	550	31		4	578	3000	3644	5150	2837	2

JACK SNIPE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

GIACH FACH

(B) A fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	72
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	50

Birds were recorded until 1st May and from 13th Sept.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT	5	19	2						1
E. GLAMORGAN	8	2	2	1			2	8	4
GOWER	7	1		2			2	1	2
CARMARTHEN		3					3	3	
PEMBROKE	6	3+	3	1	1		3	4	3
CEREDIGION	6+	3+	1+			1+	17+	1+	1+
BRECON	3	3	1				1	7	3
MONTGOMERY	1		2				1		
MEIRIONNYDD	1	2		1					
CAERNARFON	1	8	6	1		1	1	1	2
ANGLESEY	17	7	3	3			1	1	
DENBIGH	1		1						1
FLINT		3+							

Large counts (5+) were GWENT: A record 17 at Cleddon Bog on 12th Feb, GOWER: 5 at

Dan-y-lan on 4th Jan, PEMBROKE: Up to six at the Teifi Marshes on 3rd Jan, CEREDIGION: 5 at Llanrhystud on 13th Jan and 17 flushed from one field at RSPB Ynys-hir on 18th Oct; BRECON: 5 at Llangasty on 20th Nov, RADNOR: 16 at Rhosgoch Bog in Nov equalled the county record, ANGLESEY: 8 at Traeth Dulas on 3rd Jan with 6 at Mallaeth on 26th Jan.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER *Limnodromus scolopaceus*

GIACH GYLFIN-HIR

(B) *A vagrant, on BBRC list.*

PEMBROKE: A juvenile bird was present at Skokholm from 20th to 24th Sept. This was the first record for Skokholm and only the third record for Pembrokeshire.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*

CYFFYLOG

(C) *A regular breeder in small numbers in all counties except Pembrokeshire & Anglesey. It is widespread and common / abundant in winter. Wales Red listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	142
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	100

The breeding status of this species in Wales remains poorly understood. All records of roding or possibly breeding birds are given: GWENT: Roding birds were reported only at Broad Meend and Beacon Hill where one was seen on 16th April, two on 23rd May, 5 all in the air at one time on 3rd June, 3 on 9th June and 7, all of which were still roding, on 29th June; GOWER: Present in the Afan valley on 16th May; BRECON: 2 at The Cwm on 2nd Sept coupled with a late-March record could indicate a local breeding presence; CAERNARFON: One was roding south of Hafna mine in Gwydyr Forest on 15th June.

Maximum passage and wintering counts were: GWENT: 4 on 4th Jan, flying up from Clydach Gorge at dusk with 5 there on 27th Feb. In the second winter period, 4 flew from Clydach Gorge again on 13th Nov and 8 at Nantyduffy on 28th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: No record of more than two birds; GOWER: Max 3 at Coed Maesmelin wood on 22nd Jan; CARMARTHEN: 5 at Figyn Common, Llanfynydd on 22nd Jan; PEMBROKE: 5 at Frenni Fawr on 16th March and up to 8 near Crymych between 4th and 17th Dec; CEREDIGION: Good numbers winter in the county with 200 ringed during 2015; BRECON: Lamping at night to ring this species found 6 across dairy pasture at Llangorse village on 5th March; MONTGOMERY: Max count 13 at Llyn Hir on 24th Jan; MEIRIONNYDD: A poor year, with no record of more than two birds; CAERNARFON: In the first winter period 5 at Rowen on 9th Jan. In the second winter, 6 at Penrhyn Bay on 7th Dec and 5 on Bardsey on 4th Nov; ANGLESEY: 48 were ringed between Jan and March near Newborough and 12 seen at Newborough Forest on 26th Jan. In the second winter period, 4 at South Stack on 1st Nov; DENBIGH: Max count 5 at Abergelle on 4th Feb; FLINT: No record of more than two birds.

SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

GIACH GYFFREDIN

(C) A widespread breeding bird, nesting in all counties but in small and declining numbers. Substantial numbers in winter. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1047
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	299

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: Two nests, each with four eggs, at Rhyd y Blew on 18th May and two pairs probably breeding on Mynydd Farteg Fach in May; E. GLAMORGAN: 2 at Tair Carreg, Fochriw, on 22nd May and one at Rhaslas Pond on 17th June but no indication of breeding; CEREDIGION: Breeding season records from Cors Caron, RSPB Ynys-hir, Cors Fochno NNR and from near Nant y Moch; BRECON: A good number of reports of drumming/ chipping adults on territory, but no proof of breeding at any: Cwm Claisfer (2), Storey Arms, Gamrhiw (2), Gwaun Danydarren (Blaen Dyffryn), Darren (Llangattock), Cnapiau'r Felen, Crai (S), Gelli (Cnewr), Cefngwaunhynog (2), Tonspyddaden, Coed y Rhaiadr (N), and Maenllia; MONTGOMERY: A drumming male at Lake Vyrnwy. Multiple birds reported at Llanymynech until w/e 14th June. Snipe breed on the Upper Dyfi Estuary where the first chipping male was on 10th April; MEIRIONNYDD: On the Mawddach, one displaying at Yr Ynys on 13th March, one chipping at Vanner on 18th March, one chipping at Llanelltyd on 27th March, 12 birds, 4 drumming and 8 chipping, at dusk at Yr Ynys on 21st April, one chipping at dusk at Maes y garnedd, Aber Mawddach on 21st April, one flushed at dusk at Penmaenpool on 23rd April and on 1st July one drumming and one chipping at the Pill and one flushed and 2 chipping at Yr Ynys. Elsewhere, 2 birds drumming and chipping at Blaen Lliw, Migneint on 23rd April and at least one pair in the Y Garn area. The site at Cae Du, Llyn Celyn, where a bird has been heard chipping in previous years has been dug up for drainage or water inlet works, and none heard here this year; CAERNARFON: Possible breeding records were 3 at Cefnamwlch on 17th April, 2 at Neigwl Plas on 21st April, one near Pen-y-gwryd on 24th May and in the area around Llyn Eigiau, singles at Cedryn and Hafod-y-rhiw on 5th June.

Monthly max. at sites with significant winter counts of 40+ were:

		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	11	20	16	2	20	18	67	130	2
E. GLAMORGAN	Llanishen Res	55	17	63		1	P	21		9
GOWER	Port Talbot harbour/docks	65	25	42	2	-	-	35	45	34
	Oxwich	-	40	12	6	-	2	50	-	19
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	30	9	7	2	8	2	10	56	22
	Gwendraeth	64	10	-	-	-	-	-	40	9
	Taf	-	2	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEMBROKE	Cledau Est	30	10	1				10	31	79
CEREDIGION	Cors Caron									
BRECON	Mynydd Illtyd	82	35	49			1	17	15	60
	Y Gors	41	12		6			49		10
ANGLESEY	Traeth Dulas	46	22					3	5	

Other counts of 40+ were: GWENT: 40 at Machine Pond, Parc Nant-y-Waun, on 13th Jan; CARMARTHEN: 45 at Pembrey Burrows on 23rd Dec; GOWER: 70+ at Kenfig rivermouth on 1st Feb; PEMBROKE: 50+ at Castlemartin Corse on 1st Feb and 50 here on 29th Dec; CEREDIGION: 82 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 15th Dec and 50+ at Llanrhystud on 12th Jan; MONTGOMERY: 40 at Llyn Hir on 24th Jan; CAERNARFON: At Pontllyfni, 66 on 20th Feb and 98 on 1st March; DENBIGH: 47 at RSPB Conwy on 13th Dec; FLINT: 60 at Connah's Quay NR on 13th Feb.

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

SGIWEN FRECH

(B) A fairly common offshore passage migrant, particularly in autumn. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	70
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	24

GWENT: Four near the Second Severn crossing and one off Goldcliff Point on 6th May. The next day another 3 off Goldcliff Point. Autumn records are scarce, but two from Goldcliff Point on 29th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: A 2nd calendar year bird off Southerndown on 2nd June. In Nov, one off Lavernock Point on 17th, a max of two off Lavernock Point and nearby St Mary's Well Bay on 19th and another off Lavernock Point on 30th; GOWER: Two at Loughor est on 3rd May; CARMARTHEN: Two off Machynys on 5th May; PEMBROKE: 22 recorded at Strumble Head between 28th July and 13th Nov, max day count 4 on 28th July. One was off Ramsey on 22nd Sept; CEREDIGION: In winter, one at Aberystwyth on 10th Jan and one off New Quay on the same date. In spring, two flying down the Dyfi at RSPB Ynys-hir on 6th May, 5 at Aberystwyth on the same date and another off Aberystwyth on 8th May; MEIRIONNYDD: Two off Tywyn on 5th Sept; CAERNARFON: Two off Morfa Bychan on 11th May with 2-3 there the next day and 4 off Criccieth on 15th May. Bardsey recorded singles on 6th and 21st May. In autumn, a total of 17 records of 27 individuals off Bardsey between 18th Aug and 11th Nov (including 3 on 20th and 22nd Sept and 6th Oct). The only mainland record was one off Criccieth on 26th Aug; ANGLESEY: At South Stack/ The Range, one on 20th April, 5 on 6th May, two on 7th, 13 on 9th and two on 19th May. One through Inland Sea on 7th May and two flew from Ynys Feurig towards Rhoscolyn on 18th May. An adult passed Point Lynas on 28th Aug. Singles at Carmel Head on 13th Sept and at Cemlyn and Point Lynas on 20th Nov. and three passed Point Lynas on 21st Nov.

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	6 th May	Goldcliff Point	29 th Nov	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	2 nd June	Southerndown	30 th Nov	LavernockPoint
GOWER	3 rd May	Loughor Estuary		
CARMARTHEN	5 th May	Machynys		
PEMBROKE		Strumble Head	13 th Nov	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th Jan	Aberystwyth		
CAERNARFON	6 th May	Bardsey	11 th Nov	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	20 th April	The Range	21 st Nov	Point Lynas

ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

(B) Passage bird off coastal counties; scarce in spring, more numerous in autumn. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	60
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	35

GWENT: A dark-phase bird off Goldcliff Point and later on NWR Goldcliff Lagoons, on 11th April. On 14th Sept one was off Goldcliff Point, and the final record of the year was one at St Brides; E. GLAMORGAN: Two off Sker Point and two off Kenfig rivermouth on 24th April. In May, two off Cardiff Bay Barrage, max 5 off Porthcawl, one off Lavernock Point, and three at Sker Point on 6th May, one off Porthcawl on 9th and one off Kenfig rivermouth on 12th. In June, two off Southerndown and one off Irongate Point, Porthcawl, on 1st and one off Irongate Point on 2nd. One off Lavernock Point on 9th Sept, and one off Kenfig Sands on 15th Sept, then two off Cardiff Bay Barrage on 30th Nov, one off Lavernock Point on 5th Dec, and one on the beach at Lavernock Point on 7th; GOWER: On 20th April, two south of Loughor bridge flying east, and four at Port Eynon. Two at Kenfig rivermouth on 24th April; singles at Penclawdd on 3rd May, around Loughor bridge on 1st June and at Daltons Point on 2nd June, with two at Port Talbot harbour on the same date; CARMARTHEN: One off Cefn Sidan on 7th May and three off Telpyn Point on 9th May; PEMBROKE: Recorded at Strumble Head between 27th July and 20th Nov (see monthly summary table below). The max daily count was 22 on 3rd Sept. One at Amroth on 4th Jan with possibly the same bird at Wisemans Bridge on 17th Jan. 13 recorded from Skokholm between 20th May and 28th Aug. Two singles off Skomer on 15th and 22nd Sept and singles off Ramsey on 27th July, 22nd Sept, 7th Oct and 13th Nov; CEREDIGION: In spring, two off Borth on 10th April, one at Aberystwyth on 25th April, and singles off Aberystwyth on 8th and 9th May. Reported more widely in autumn, from 28th July to 2nd Oct, max 4 off Ynyslas on 19th Aug and 3 off New Quay on 29th Aug; MEIRIONNYDD: Three off Tywyn on 5th Sept and two on the 7th; CAERNARFON: In spring, 5 off Morfa Bychan on 11th May and 4+ there on the 12th, with one off Criccieth on 15th May. In autumn, two off Rhos Point on 22nd Sept and singles off Llanfairfechan and the Great and Little Ormes. Bardsey had a much better year: 3 on 7th May; singles on 20th and 30th May and 5th, 9th and 12th June. Autumn passage there was from 1st July to 15th Nov, with a total of 112 birds. 50 passed the island on 29th Sept, the largest ever daily count for both Bardsey and Caernarfonshire, and 14 passed the next day; ANGLESEY: At South Stack in May, one on 9th, two on 19th singles on 20th and 28th and one on 29th July. One off Silver Bay on 18th April, two off the headland on 28th May. Off Cemlyn, singles on 18th May and 22nd June. In autumn, recorded from 31st July to 7th Oct, max three off Carmel Head on 13th Sept and six there on 20th. 1-2 birds were also recorded off Cemlyn, Point Lynas, Bull Bay and the Range; FLINT: Two at Talacre on 3rd Sept.

Monthly max counts off Strumble Head, PEMBROKE:

July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
2	58	137	17	8

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	11 th April	Goldcliff Point		StBrides
E. GLAMORGAN	24 th April	Sker Point & Kenfig	7 th Dec	Lavernock Point
GOWER	20 th April	Loughor bridge & Port Eynon		
CARMARTHEN	7 th May	Cefn Sidan		
PEMBROKE	20 th May	Skokholm	20 th Nov	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th April	Borth	2 nd Oct	Aberystwyth
MEIRIONNYDD			7 th Sept	Tywyn
CAERNARFON	7 th May	Bardsey	15 th Nov	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	18 th April	Silver Bay	7 th Oct	Point Lynas

2014: FLINT: A single at Point of Ayr on 28th Aug.

LONG-TAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudus*

SGIWEN LOSTFAIN

(A) An uncommon visitor recorded chiefly along the western seaboard during westerly gales, spring records are very infrequent. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	19
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	7

PEMBROKE: 10 at Strumble Head between 24th Aug and 21st Nov, with max day counts of two on 3rd Sept and 13th Nov. A 2nd calendar year bird on 13th Nov; all others were juveniles. A juvenile off Skomer on 15th Sept was only the 8th record for the island, while a juvenile here on 22nd Sept was perhaps the same bird which went west off Crab Bay the following day; CEREDIGION: An adult off Ynyslas turn car-park on 28th May, and possibly same bird there on 3rd June. In autumn, an adult at New Quay on 2nd Sept; CAERNARFON: All records off Bardsey in autumn: a 1st summer bird on 25th Aug; an adult and a juvenile on 20th Sept; a juvenile and a 2nd summer bird on 6th Oct. Only four individuals were recorded on Bardsey prior to 1996, but the species has been recorded in all but one of the 20 years since, with a total of 90 individuals recorded there; ANGLESEY: Singles passed the Range on 31st May and 1st June.

GREAT SKUA *Catharactskua*

SGIWEN FAWR

(B) Regularly recorded on autumn passage along the west coast where small numbers are also seen in winter and spring. Numbers vary annually, the highest counts dependent on the strength and frequency of onshore gales. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	61
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	34

GWENT: One down-channel on 15th Nov and one off Undy the next day. 5, possibly 10, off Goldcliff Point on 18th Nov, with 6 there on 20th and at the month-end one on 28th, two on 29th and two again on 30th. Two off Goldcliff Point on 5th Dec; E. GLAMORGAN Two off

Irongate Point, Porthcawl, on 1st June, and one off Southerndown on 2nd June. One off Irongate Point on 4th Aug, then in mid to late Nov one off Lavernock Point on 15th and two there on 17th, one off Irongate Point, Porthcawl and max 5 off Lavernock Point on 18th, then 6 here on 19th and one on 29th; singles off Cardiff Bay Barrage and Irongate Point, and three off Lavernock Point on 30th. Two off Lavernock Point on 5th Dec, and one off Rest Bay and Sker on 31st Dec; GOWER: Singles at Whiteford lighthouse on 4th May and at Port Eynon point on 4th June. Two off Margam breakwater on 2nd June; one at Loughor bridge on 15th Nov and singles at Tutt Head on 15th and 17th Nov; CARMARTHEN: Singles in May at Cefn Sidan on 4th and Machynys on 5th; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head, one on 5th Jan. A max day count of 15 on 4th Sept, the only double figure count of the year. The total of 110 was the lowest since 2007 (see summary table below). Two birds N over Tresinwen on 3rd Oct suggested overland passage. Skokholm had 16 records between 4th April and 15th Nov, the earliest and latest island records. The April bird had been ringed on St. Kilda in May 2007. One was off Skomer on 5th May. Ramsey had 14 records: two on 10th Jan, two on 26th Aug, one on 7th Oct, 8 on 13th Nov and one on 21st Nov; CEREDIGION: One off New Quay on 10th Jan, two at Aberystwyth on 11th Jan and one there on 2nd March. On spring passage, one at Aberystwyth on 30th May and 4 off Mwnt on 3rd June. In autumn, two off Mwnt on 28th July and one at New Quay on the same day, two at Aberystwyth on 9th Nov, and 3 there on 13th; MEIRIONNYDD: One on the Glaslyn Marshes on 18th Nov; CAERNARFON: In spring: one off Criccieth on 10th May, one off Morfa Bychan on 11th May with two there on the 12th and one past Bardsey on 12th May. In autumn: one off the Little Orme on 7th Oct, two off the Great Orme on 8th Nov and 3 off Rhos Point on 27th Nov. Further west, one at Foryd on 23rd Aug and one in Tremadog Bay on 18th Nov. Off Bardsey a total of 70 between 10th Aug and 17th Nov, max daily count 6, on 6th, 7th, 10th and 21st Oct; ANGLESEY: One off North Stack and off Holyhead on 10th Jan following storms. One off The Range on 20th April and singles off South Stack on 6th and 9th May. Three past Point Lynas on 28th Aug, 5 on 30th Aug, one on 3rd Sept and three on 6th Sept. Singles off Holyhead on 7th Oct, off Cemlyn on 11th Oct, and Point Lynas on 10th Nov. Two off North Stack on 13th Nov, one past Point Lynas on 20th Nov with 9 there on 21st Nov.

Monthly max counts off Strumble Head, PEMBROKE:

Jan	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	3	25	51	2	24	4

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT			5 th Dec	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	1 st June	Porthcawl	31 st Dec	Off Rest Bay and Sker
GOWER	4 th May	Whiteford lighthouse	17 th Nov	Tutt head
CARMARTHEN	4 th May	Cefn Sidan		
PEMBROKE	5 th Jan	Strumble Head	11 th Dec	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th Jan	New Quay	13 th Nov	Aberystwyth
MEIRIONNYDD			18 th Nov	Glaslyn Marshes
CAERNARFON	10 th May	off Criccieth	27 th Nov	Rhos Point
ANGLESEY	10 th Jan	Holyhead/North Stack	21 st Nov	Point Lynas

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica*

PAL

(C) A breeding bird of offshore islands and a few western headlands. Formerly bred in large numbers. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	172
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	43

Breeding records or records of possible breeding were: GOWER: Three (possibly six) at Outer Worm's Head on 14th and 20th June; PEMBROKE: Breeding colony counts included two sites occupied by individuals at Stackpole Head - a similarly low number to that recorded in 2014 (3). 6,665 were counted on 14th May on Skokholm (a 31.5% increase on 2014 figures); from a study sample of nest-burrows, 44 young fledged from 80 nests (a breeding success of 0.55 per nest-burrow). 21,349 individuals on Skomer on 15th April was the highest total since current records began in 1988 and a 17.06% increase on 2014 figures, a 69.75% increase over the last five years. From a study sample of nest-burrows at South Haven, 103 young fledged from 157 nests, a breeding success of 0.66 per nest-burrow, 13% higher than that of 2014. Bred also on the Bishop's and Clerks, with 60 there on 23rd May; CAERNARFON: Breeding numbers on Bardsey are thought to be increasing. Counts of over 100 birds in June; many carrying fish, and several chicks found during burrow inspections on 1st July. Several new small colonies were discovered, spreading south along the east side. Birds were also recorded visiting other parts of the island. The population is thought to be around 75 pairs. No burrow count on Ynysodd Gwylan this year, but a raft count of 400 birds on 9th June suggests little change in the population; ANGLESEY: Three on the sea off South Stack on 2nd and 7th April, 19 on 10th June with one carrying nesting material into burrow. Ten were off Puffin Island on 26th May and 16 on land there on 14th June. 578 occupied burrows were counted on the Skerries, more than double the number recorded there in 2014 (263).

Other counts included: CEREDGION: One at Aberporth on 9th April was the only record; CAERNARFON: One off Porth Meudwy on 18th June; ANGLESEY: One seen from the ferry off South Stack on its approach into Holyhead on 31st May At Cemlyn seen on sea-watches in small numbers passing the headland, probably breeding individuals from the small colonies nearby, max 25 west on 8th July during a NW wind. One was in Bull Bay on 20th Aug; DENBIGH: One, the first for a number of years, at Llanddulas on 26th Oct.

Monthly max counts off Bardsey, CAERNARFON:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bardsey			8	22	51	43	113	3	3			

BLACK GUILLEMOT *Cephus grylle*

GWYLOG DDU

(A) A very scarce breeding resident in Anglesey and rarely elsewhere. Occurs sparingly off the coasts of Wales outside the breeding season. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	137
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	49

Breeding records were: PEMBROKE: A pair bred in Fishguard Harbour, present there from 18th March until the end of summer; CAERNARFON: Records during the breeding season (which may not always imply possible breeding) included one off Rhos Point on 19th April, one off the Great Orme on 2nd May and one off Porth Meudwy on 19th June; ANGLESEY: Four chicks were ringed and 11 adults were present in Holyhead Harbour on 10th July.

All records were: GWENT: One at Goldcliff Point then at Blackrock on 15th Nov was a new bird for the county; CEREDIGION: One at Cardigan Island on 27th May and one off Borth on 19th Nov; MEIRIONNYDD: One off Llwyngwrl on 9th May; CAERNARFON: Outside the breeding season, several records of 1-2 birds, mainly off the north coast, max 3 off the Great Orme on 20th Nov, 5 off Penmaenmawr on 16th Aug and 12 off Bangor pier on 1st Feb. Bardsey had its best-ever year, with a minimum of 22 records between 13th April and 5th Sept, max 3, including a displaying and singing male, on 21st June; ANGLESEY: Small numbers at a number of locations. During the early winter, counts of 6 or more birds included 8 on 8th Feb and 6 on 1st March at Holyhead Harbour and 8 at Doc Bach, Holyhead on 16th Feb. Max spring/summer counts were 17 off Doc Bach, Holyhead on 1st April, 12 off Llanfaes on 2nd June, 5 off Moelfre on 9th July and 6 off Fedw Fawr on 17th Aug. In the late winter period, a max of 7 adults in Holyhead Harbour on 13th Dec; DENBIGH: A single during a WeBS count at Rhos-on Sea on 19th April.

RAZORBILL *Alca torda*

LLURS

(C) A breeding resident on the cliffs and islands of the north-west and south-west. Some disperse south in winter but others remain in Welsh waters. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	431
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	134

Breeding records were: GOWER: Present (but no counts) at Outer Worm's Head; PEMBROKE: Breeding colony counts included: 75 individual adults on land on suitable ledges (AOL) on Caldey - a continued increase (cf 58 in 2014); 239 AOL on St Margaret's Island - a slight increase (cf 205 in 2014) but similar to 2013; 1,207 AOL along the Castlemartin peninsula - a slight increase (cf 1,142 in 2014) but lower than numbers recorded in 2013 (1,511) which was the highest count in 30 years of annual monitoring. On Skokholm, early season colony attendance counts included a peak March count of 2,380 on 15th (similar to counts in 2013); a whole Island colony count in June recorded 2,382 AOL, a 16.1% increase on the 2014 count and the highest total yet recorded on Skokholm (3.8% up on the previous highest total of 2,294 in 2013). On Skomer two whole island counts in June provided a mean of 7,489 individuals, a 14.49% increase on 2014 figures, and a 46.33% increase over the last five years. Mean productivity per active and regular site (in study areas) was 0.37 (0.39 per active site only); an increase on last year's results, but similar to that recorded in 2013. On Ramsey, 1,222 AOL were counted (cf 1,482 in 2012). Bred also on Grassholm and at Needle Rock, Dinas Island but no counts made; CEREDIGION: A sea-based count of Cardigan Island on 22nd May recorded 87 occupied sites; a land-based count there on 16th June recorded 7 AOL; CAERNARFON: 2,369 AOL on Bardsey was a small increase (cf 2,208 in 2014). A minimum of 321 eggs/young were

counted in the colonies there, 7.7% higher than the ten-year mean. No full count on Ynys Gwylan Fawr, but on 9th June 17 AOL could be seen on Ynys Gwylan Bach. On the Great Orme there were 205 AOL (cf 125 in 2014); on the Little Orme there were 46 (cf 44 last year). Carreg y Llam however showed a decrease, with 741 AOL (cf 813 last year); ANGLESEY: 987 AOL at South Stack, well up on the 769 recorded in 2014. Sea-based counts of Puffin Island recorded 592 AOL (cf 788 AOL in 2014).

Other counts included: GWENT: Two records from Goldcliff Point, one on 5th May and one on 18th Nov. One flew past Peterstone Wentlooge on 2nd June; E. GLAMORGAN: Singles off Southerndown on 2nd June, at Lavernock Point on 14th Nov, off Sker on 16th Nov and off Irongate Point, Porthcawl, on 30th Nov, with 6 off Sker on 4th Dec; GOWER: In April, one at Bracelet Bay on 11th, two at Port Eynon on 20th and one at Fall Bay on 26th. One at Bracelet Bay on 24th May and two at Port Eynon on 2nd June. In the second winter period, at Bracelet Bay on 5th and south of Slade on 6th Dec; CARMARTHEN: One spring record, a single off Cefn Sidan on 7th May. Late summer records, two off Cefn Sidan on 16th Aug and Pembrey Harbour on 15th Sept; one off Cefn Sidan on 14th Oct and two there on 15th Oct; CEREDIGION: 200 off Borth/Ynyslas on 12th Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: One off Morfa Harlech on 22nd Jan and two off Tonfanau shore on 30th Oct. 150 off Tonfanau on 30th Sept were mostly this species; CAERNARFON: Small numbers at many coastal sites. For monthly max counts at main sites, see table below; ANGLESEY: Large counts were 18 off Moelfre on 30th Nov and 300 at South Stack on 22nd April. At Cemlyn small numbers were seen passing offshore during sea-watches;

DENBIGH: Most records were of 1-3 along the coast from Pensarn to Llandrillo-yn-Rhos. Highest counts there were 13 on 4th Jan and 34 on 10th April. Later in the year 12+ were seen at Llanddulas on 7th Nov.

Monthly max counts, CAERNARFON:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bardsey			458	861	1089	1595	821	9	2585	3732	980	708
Little Orme	14		40	42	1		4		7	20	3	
Rhos Point	2	1		4			1		30	400		

LITTLE AUK *Alle alle*

CARFIL BACH

(A) Scarce winter visitor in irregular numbers offshore on the western seaboard. Most sightings in late autumn and early winter; often associated with westerly gales.

No of BirdTrack records	13
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	10

All records were: GOWER: One bird seen at Port Eynon Point on 5th Dec; CARMARTHEN: A storm-blown bird was picked up on the B4304 near Delta Lakes, Llanelli on 15th Jan. It was taken to the Gower Bird Hospital but died there; PEMBROKE: One found dead at Freshwater West on 25th Dec; CAERNARFON: Singles off Rhos Point on 10th Jan and 1st

Feb. Two off the Little Orme on 11th Jan and one here on 3rd Feb. In the second winter period, one was off Criccieth on 6th Dec; ANGLESEY: Singles, off Point Lynas on 10th Jan and at Cemlyn on 6th Dec.

GUILLEMOT *Uria aalge*

GWYLOG

(C) Resident breeding species in SW and NW counties, moving out to sea to moult after breeding and returning to the vicinity of colonies as early as Dec. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	539
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	178

Breeding records were: GOWER: Bred at Worm's Head but no counts: PEMBROKE: Breeding colony counts included: 28 AOL on Caldey - a slight decrease (cf 35 in 2014) but similar to 2013; 1,197 AOL on St Margaret's Island - a further slight decrease (cf 1,266 in 2014 and 1,315 in 2013); along the Castlemartin peninsula, 16,367 AOL in June but poor weather prevented sea-based observations, and some sections only viewable from the sea were not counted. Complete counts of the largest colony (Elegug Stacks) suggested no significant population change there. On Skokholm, early season colony attendance counts included 2,727 on 18th March (the highest ever March count for the island), while April counts included 3,315 on the 15th; a whole Island colony count on 16th June recorded a total of 3,603 adults in suitable breeding habitat (a 2.6% increase on the 2014 count and the highest total yet recorded on Skokholm). This is the third year running that a small increase in the population has been noted following the significant increase observed over the past decade. On Skomer, whole island population counts in June produced a mean of 23,746 individuals (an increase of 1.08% on the 2014 figure and an increase of 9.49% since 2011). Mean productivity was 0.76 fledged birds per active and regularly occupied site (the highest figure since the late 1990s, and higher than the overall mean of 0.68 between 1989 and 2015). In 2015 productivity was measured at only one study plot, whereas in previous years this was based on the average of different plots around the island, potentially with ecological differences. On Ramsey, 4,403 AOL (cf 4,204 in 2012). Bred also on Grassholm and at Needle Rock, Dinas Island; CEREDIGION: A sea-based count of Cardigan Island on 22nd May recorded 87 occupied sites; a land-based count there on 16th June recorded five AOL; CAERNARFON: Breeding numbers showed an overall increase, despite decreases on the Ormes. 1,240 AOL on Bardsey was an 8.7% increase on last year and the highest total ever recorded for the island. A minimum of 17 chicks almost big enough to fledge were counted in one sample plot. This gave a productivity of 0.38 (22.6% higher than the ten-year mean). There were 44 AOL on Ynsoedd Gwylan (down from 77 in 2011). On the Great Orme, 1,626 AOL was a decrease (cf 1,773 in 2014); on the Little Orme 538 AOL was a large decrease (cf 1,314 in 2014). The largest colony in the county at Carreg y Llam showed a good increase - 9,676 AOL (cf 6,213 in 2014); ANGLESEY: 5,878 AOL recorded at South Stack (well up on the 4,773 recorded in 2014 and slightly higher than the 5,563 recorded in 2013). Sea-based counts of Puffin Island recorded 3,627 AOL (cf 3,295 in 2014).

Other counts included: GWENT: One past Goldcliff Point on 18th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN:

One off Ogmore river mouth on 11th Jan. In May, 6 off Irongate Point, Porthcawl, on 6th, present at Kenfig river-mouth on 7th, and two off Lavernock Point on 18th. In June, one at Irongate Point on 1st and two there on 2nd. One was off Sker on 23rd Oct. More records during the second winter period, max 20 off Porthcawl on 9th Nov, 12 off Sker on 11th Nov and 30 off Sker on 4th; GOWER: From 1st Jan to 25th July there were 48 records, mainly from Bracelet Bay and Port Eynon. Max counts: 150 at Rhossili/Mewslade on 5th April, 100 at Rhossili/Mewslade on 14th June and 80 there on 5th July. From 12th Oct to 11th Dec there were 12 records, max c.50 at Baglan Bay on 26th Oct; CARMARTHEN: Records from Cefn Sidan, max 25 on 15th Oct; PEMBROKE: Logged offshore from Ramsey through winter with large numbers passing the north end on many days (max 3,164/hr on 2nd Jan); MEIRIONNYDD: Max 200 off Cae Du campsite on 13th Aug; CAERNARFON: For monthly max counts at main sites see table below; ANGLESEY: Max counts at South Stack: 1,800 on 4th Jan, 3,000 on 27th Feb and 2,400 on 22nd April. 600 flew west past Point Lynas on 1st Feb; DENBIGH: Most reports were in Nov. Max counts 28 at Rhos-on-Sea on 19th April and 20 here on 22nd Sept; FLINT: A single at Connah's Quay NR on 1st Feb. The first record in autumn was a single at Flint on 30th Sept, with one at Connah's Quay NR on 26th Oct.

Monthly max counts, CAERNARFON:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bardsey			589	272	715	1000	187	6	9	13	84	77
Great Orme		1000	6	1	100	30	200		30			
Little Orme	1		40	194	15		36		30	200		
Rhos Point	30	3	14	28			30	1	20	3200		

LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons*

MORWENNOL FECHAN

(B) A summer resident which breeds only at one colony in Flint, otherwise a spring and autumn passage migrant to other coastal areas, rare inland. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	37
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	15

Breeding records were: FLINT: Encouragingly, a pair successfully bred at Point of Ayr for the first time since 2009, rearing two fledglings. 135 breeding pairs at the Gronant colony successfully reared 99 fledglings, despite high predation by Kestrel of three adults, 33 chicks and eight fledglings (Gronant Little Tern Report 2015). A total of 62 chicks were ringed at Gronant between 4th and 30th July. Colour ringing was also undertaken for the first time this year with two adults ringed on 25th June.

Other records were: GWENT: One past Goldcliff Point on 2nd June; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Kenfig Sands (south) on 24th April; GOWER: Two south of Loughor Bridge and two at Loughor on 22nd April, two at two separate Burry Inlet locations on 23rd April, 3 at Blackpill on 9th May; CARMARTHEN: At Pembrey Harbour: 3 (two adults and a juvenile) on 14th Aug; the juvenile remained to 15th; PEMBROKE: Only recorded at Strumble Head, with 4 on 23rd Aug and one on 3rd Sept; CEREDIGION: Singles at Ynyslas on 10th May and 24th Aug; CAERNARFON: One off Morfa Bychan on 12th May; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn singles

on 8th May, 21st June and 4th July. Two adults at Traeth Crigyll, Rhosneigr on 26th July and one adult feeding three fledged juveniles there on 11th Aug; FLINT: The first record was 15 at Gronant on 21st April. Most records came from areas around the two breeding sites near Gronant and Point of Ayr, max counts 350 at Gronant on 19th July and 250 at Point of Ayr on 29th July. A late record of 9 at Talacre on 3rd Sept.

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	2 nd June	GoldcliffPoint		
E. GLAMORGAN	24 th April	KenfigSands (south)		
GOWER	22 nd April	Loughor Bridge & Lougher		
CARMARTHEN			15 th Aug	Pembrey Harbour
PEMBROKE			3 rd Sept	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th May	Ynyslas	24 th Aug	Ynyslas
CAERNARFON	12 th May	Morfa Bychan		
ANGLESEY	8 th May	Trwyn	11 th Aug	Traeth Crigyll, Rhosneigr
FLINT	21 st April	Gronant	3 rd Sept	Talacre

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica*

MORWENNOL YLFINBRAFF

(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

CEREDIGION: A third calendar year bird at high-tide at RSPB Ynys-hir on 2nd July which was seen the next day at Burton Marshes, Cheshire;

2014: MEIRIONNYDD: One off Aberdyfi on 11th May, also seen the next day at Ynyslas across the Dyfi in CEREDIGION. This could be a returning bird that has been coming back to this area since 2012.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

CORSWENNOL DDU

(B) A fairly common passage migrant, chiefly to coastal counties in autumn but also recorded on inland waters; spring records are usually fewer in number but there are substantial influxes in some years. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	70
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	28

All records were: GWENT: All reports were of autumn passage juveniles at Llandegfedd Res, one on 14th Aug, another on 28th-29th Aug and max 5 on 15th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: 10 at Lavernock Point on 6th May, and two at Kenfig river-mouth on 7th May. Two at Lisvane Res on 16th Aug, one at Caerphilly Castle Moat on 15th Sept (the first record for this site), and two at Kenfig Pool the same day. Finally, two at Lisvane Res on 16th Sept; GOWER: On spring passage, two at Kenfig Rivermouth on 7th May. On autumn passage, a juvenile over Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir on 26th Aug; a juvenile at Swansea Vale on 27th-28th Aug

and probably the same bird at Fendrod Lake from 28th-31st Aug, with two at Eglwys Nunydd Res on 15th Sept; PEMBROKE: Only recorded at Strumble Head, 149 in total, max 105 on 23rd Aug; CEREDIGION: Three at Ynyslas on 23rd Aug; BRECON: At Llangorse Lake: four on 23rd April; five on 13th Aug reduced to two the next day and a single on 15th. Another single on 22nd-25th Aug and two on 15th Sept; MEIRIONNYDD: Two off Llwyngwrl on 4th Aug; two on the Glaslyn Marshes on 27th Aug; one adult at Llyn Tegid on 13th Sept; CAERNARFON: Two off Bardsey on 23rd Aug, one at Aber Ogwen and two at the Glaslyn Marshes on 27th Aug and one off Morfa Aber and Llanfairfechan on 16th Sept; ANGLESEY: Two at Cemlyn on 10th Aug and three passed Point Lynas on 28th Aug; DENBIGH: Up to three on 21st April at Gresford Flash; FLINT: A single at Gronant on 23rd Aug.

SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis*

MORWENNOL BIGDDU

(C) A summer visitor and passage migrant to coastal areas in spring and autumn, scarce inland; it is a regular breeder on Anglesey. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	498
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	174

Breeding records were: ANGLESEY: A very successful year at Cemlyn. Due to the weather, it was not possible to undertake the nest count this year, but an estimated 2,650 pairs, a record count for the fifth consecutive year. They had a moderately successful season, with later nesting pairs appearing more successful, but predation by avian and mammal predators was high through the season. A max of 1,200 juveniles fledged (an average breeding success of approx. 0.45 per nest) but many late fledging chicks were taken by Peregrines, so perhaps substantially fewer 'left' the colony.

Large counts elsewhere were: GOWER: Records from 23 widespread locations. Max spring passage count: 19 at River Loughor on 23rd April; max autumn passage count: 17 at Aberavon Beach on 23rd Aug; CARMARTHEN: At the Pembrey Harbour high tide roost, max 92 on 14th Aug. Numbers at Cefn Sidan included a max there of 50 on 12th Sept; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head a total of 679 were logged, an increase on last year. The max day count was 119 on 30th Aug; CEREDIGION: Max spring counts 15 at Aberystwyth on 12th April and 20 at Ynyslas on 23rd April. Peak autumn counts were at Ynyslas: 468 on 19th Aug and 400 on 2nd Sept; MEIRIONNYDD: 250 loafing on Tonfanau rocks on 15th Sept. Large numbers off Morfa Harlech on 30th Sept and 1st Oct; CAERNARFON: For WeBs counts see table below; Elsewhere, 80 off the Little Orme on 22nd Sept. Bardsey had its poorest year since 2002 for this species, with a peak of just 25 on 3rd Sept; ANGLESEY: Max counts were 80 at Traeth Dulas on 6th July, 110 past Point Lynas on 28th Aug, and 70 there on 30th Aug; DENBIGH: Max count 80 at Towyn on 17th Sept, a much lower max count than the average for recent years; FLINT: Most records from Point of Ayr, Gronant and the River Clwyd near Rhyl, max count 801 along the River Clwyd on 30th July.

Monthly max counts (WeBs), CAERNARFON:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rhos Point				40	18		190	304	50	4		
Foryd				130	90	5	70	14	13			
Traeth Lafan				8	25		301	310	250			

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	5 th May	Goldcliff Point	13 th July	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	19 th April	Kenfig rivermouth	10 th Dec	Kenfig Pool
GOWER	5 th April	Exact location not stated	25 th Sept	Port Eynon
CARMARTHEN	11 th April	Machynys	28 th Sept	Cefn Sidan
PEMBROKE	31 st March	The Gann	22 nd Nov	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	31 st March	Aberystwyth	30 th Sept	No site named
MEIRIONNYDD	7 th April	Tywyn	1 st Oct	Morfa Harlech
CAERNARFON	28 th March	off Criccieth	9 th Oct	Morfa Nefyn
ANGLESEY	1 st April	Red Wharf Bay	20 th Sept	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	16 th April	Towyn	22 nd Sept	Rhos-on-Sea
FLINT	8 th April	River Clwyd	4 th Oct	River Clwyd

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

MORWENNOL GYFFREDIN

(C) A summer visitor, breeding in Anglesey and Flint. It is a spring and autumn passage migrant to all coastal areas, sometimes found inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	237
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	63

Breeding records were: ANGLESEY: 67 pairs bred at Cemlyn this year, and an estimated 40 fledglings were produced (an average breeding success of approx. 0.45 per nest). 273 AON on the Skerries, compared to 236 AON in 2014; FLINT: 344 occupied nests at Shotton Steel Works. Good numbers of nestlings were ringed: 454 on 21st June, 140 on 11th July and 32 on 2nd Aug. The number of young fledged was estimated to be between 565 and 580, with a breeding success of 1.66 chicks per nest.

Large counts elsewhere were: GWENT: 82 at Llandegfedd Res on 14th Aug; 6 there on 23rd Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: Max 8 off Porthcawl on 2nd June; GOWER: 12 south of Loughor Bridge on 19th April; CARMARTHEN: Max count 5 at Pembrey Harbour on 2nd Sept; PEMBROKE: 71 flew east off Skokholm on 13th Sept; CEREDIGION: Max spring count, 21 at Ynyslas on 10th April and max autumn count 50 at Ynyslas on 23rd Aug; MEIRIONNYDD: 150 on the Glaslyn Estuary on 11th Sept; CAERNARFON: 198 off Bangor Pier on 8th June, at least 105 off Bardsey on 23rd Aug, 34 there the next day and 27 on 25th. 100 off the Little Orme on 22nd Sept and 17 off the Great Orme on 20th Oct; ANGLESEY: Max count 22 in Beddmenarch Bay on 27th July; DENBIGH: A max count of 10 at Colwyn Bay on 23rd April; FLINT: Most sightings from Connah's Quay NR, max 80 on 9th July, presumably birds departing the Shotton Steelworks colony.

Inland county records: BRECON: Max counts at Llangorse Lake: 12 (flock) on 28th June and at least 19 on 12th Sept.

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	1 st June	Goldcliff Point	15 th Sept	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	12 th May	Kenfig river mouth	18 th Sept	Off Sker
GOWER	11 th April	Bracelet Bay	15 th Sept	Burry Inlet breakwater
CARMARTHEN	22 nd April	Cefn Sidan	2 nd Sept	Pembrey Harbour
PEMBROKE			15 th Sept	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th April	Ynyslas	7 th Sept	New Quay
BRECON	23 rd April	Llangorse Lake	12 th Sept	Llangorse Lake
MONTGOMERY	5 th May	Llyn Coed y Dinas		
MEIRIONNYDD	17 th April	Aberdyfi	28 th Sept	Tonfanau
CAERNARFON	19 th April	Caernarfon Bar	20 th Oct	Great Orme
ANGLESEY	19 th April	Inland Sea		
DENBIGH	23 rd April	Colwyn Bay		
FLINT	28 th April	White Sands	3 rd Sept	Talacre

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii*

MORWENNOL WRIDOG

(A) Now only an occasional breeder on Anglesey; elsewhere scarce on spring and autumn passage at coastal sites. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	43
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	13

Breeding information:ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn, regular records of single birds throughout the season. The first was recorded on the 11th May with another four records during May and 8 records in June, including several of a pair. Records on 8 days in July, max 4 on 10th and the last record on 19th July. From photos these have been identified as young non-breeding birds.

All other records were:E. GLAMORGAN: Two off Porthcawl on 2nd June; PEMBROKE: Singles at Strumble Head on 23rd and 29th Aug; CEREDIGION: One at Ynyslas on 23rd Aug; CAERNARFON: 5 off Caernarfon on 13th May and one on Bardsey on 23rd Aug; ANGLESEY: Singles at Ynys Feurig, Rhosneigr on 5th and 11th July.

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisea*

MORWENNOL Y GOGLEDD

(C) Breeds only around the Anglesey coast, elsewhere a regular passage migrant to coastal areas, but generally scarcer than Common and scarce inland. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	190
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	40

Breeding records were: ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn, 47 pairs were incubating, and they achieved moderate success with 15 chicks fledging (an average breeding success of approx. 0.32 per nest). 3,808 AON were counted on the Skerries (cf 3,833 AON in 2014).

Large counts elsewhere were: GWENT: Max counts: 4 off Goldcliff Point, on 6th and 9th May; E. GLAMORGAN: Max counts: 10 off Southerndown on 5th May and 37 off Sker on 6th May. One well inland at Rhaslas Pond on 1st and 9th May was a notable record; GOWER: Max 3 at Crymlyn Burrows on 11th April; PEMBROKE: Max counts: 10 off Skokholm on the 27th Aug and 8 there on 22nd Sept; CEREDGION: Max count: 15 at Aberystwyth on 6th May; CAERNARFON: Max counts at Bardsey: 52 on 23rd Aug (the third-highest count ever for the island); 25 on the 24th Aug and 15 there the next day; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn, arrived in large numbers in early May with daily totals of up to 900 birds, 800 here on 11th May. 40 at the Inland Sea on 27th May. Off South Stack, 71 on 27th May, 134 on 29th May and 87 on 10th June.

Inland county records: BRECON: Two at Llangorse 6th-11th May and one on 23rd Aug. Elsewhere, two at Dolymynach Res (Elan valley) on 9th May before proceeding north.

Earliest and latest dates by county were:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	5 th May	Goldcliff Point	3 rd July	Llandegfedd Reservoir
E. GLAMORGAN	1 st May	Rhaslas Pond		
GOWER	11 th April	Crymlyn Burrows	25 th July	Bracelet Bay
CARMARTHEN			14 th Sept	Burry Port Harbour
PEMBROKE			16 th Sept	Newport & Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	10 th April	Aberystwyth & Ynyslas	23 rd Aug	Ynyslas
BRECON	6 th May	Llangorse Lake	23 rd Aug	Llangorse Lake
MONTGOMERY	6 th May	Llyn Coed y Dinas		
CAERNARFON	5 th May	Bardsey	22 nd Sept	Bardsey and Rhos Point
ANGLESEY	28 th April	Cemlyn	18 th Nov	Holyhead Harbour
FLINT	15 th May	Flint	3 rd Sept	Talacre

SABINE'S GULL *Larus sabini*

GWYLAN SABINE

(A) An uncommon visitor to the coast in autumn, numbers vary according to the frequency of westerly gales.

No of BirdTrack records	10
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	2

All records were: PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head a slight increase in records with a total of 10 birds: In Aug, two on 29th, singles on 22nd, 30th and 31st (all adults). In Sept, two adults and a juvenile on 1st and an adult on 22nd. The final record was of a juvenile on 7th Nov; CAERNARFON: Two records of singles, both off Bardsey: one on 13th Oct and one on 21st Oct; ANGLESEY: One passed Cemlyn on 1st Sept.

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla*

GWYLAN GOESDDU

(C) A breeding species in coastal areas from Glamorgan to Caernarfon, except Meirionnydd. Large numbers occur offshore on passage. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	511
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	148

Breeding numbers have been declining in recent years, but this year provided better news in several counties. Breeding records were: GOWER: Bred at Mumbles Pier, but no counts of occupied nests received; PEMBROKE: Breeding colony counts included: 249 apparently occupied nests (AON) on St Margaret's Island - a moderate increase on 202 AON in 2014 and 239 AON in 2013, 8 AON along the Castlemartin peninsula (similar low numbers in 2014), six young fledged - the first breeding success here for several years. 1,546 AON on Skomer was 3.9% up on last year but still represented a drop of 20.74% over the last five year period and 13% below the ten year mean of 1,777. Observations at three study plots recorded a mean breeding success of 0.76 large chicks per nest, the highest productivity since 2006. 127 AON on Ramsey, a further decrease from 149 in 2014, and a breeding success of only 0.17 young per nest compared to 1.22 in 2014. Bred also on Grassholm but no counts there; CEREDIGION: No boat-based surveys this year though apparently a reasonable season at New Quay; CAERNARFON: Increases at all the main colonies in the county. 125 AON on Bardsey compared to 104 AON in 2014. At one colony here a minimum of 52 young fledged from 62 nests, giving a productivity figure of 0.84 young per pair; a 300% increase on the poor success rate last year and 31.3% above the 2006-2015 mean. The Great Orme recorded its highest total since 2006, with 809 AON, up from 485 AON in 2014, while on the Little Orme there were 278 AON compared to 196 AON in 2014. Numbers at Carreg y Llam increased to 845 AON from 726 AON in 2014, the highest total since 2006; ANGLESEY: Ten AON at South Stack compared to 5 in 2014 and 8 in 2013. 356 AON were counted on Puffin Island, up from 300 AON in 2014.

Summary of other records: GWENT: In spring, max 40 off Goldcliff Point on 6th May. A good series of Nov records, max 22 off Goldcliff Point on 29th; E. GLAMORGAN: A spring max of 10 off Lavernock Point on 18th May. 23 off SkerPoint on 15th Aug, and many reports during strong SW winds in Nov, max 50 off Porthcawl on 9th, 300 off Irongate Point, Porthcawl, on 18th, 61 off Cardiff Bay Barrage and max 75 off Lavernock Point on 29th; 80 off Cardiff Bay Barrage, 500 off Irongate Point and a max of 70 off Lavernock Point on 30th. In Dec, 80 off Lavernock Point on 5th; GOWER: Other than at Mumbles Pier/Head (see table) max counts 50 at Rhossili/Mewslade on 17th May and at Port Eynon on 21st July.

Monthly max counts at Mumbles Pier area, GOWER:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pier/Head	20	84	246	260	380	273	233	230	165	128	2	35

CARMARTHEN: Max 10 off Cefn Sidan on 7th May; PEMBROKE: Max counts off Skokholm in Oct included 307 on 23rd and 556 on 25th. Counts here in Nov were the highest of the last decade, max 840 on the 7th, 691 on the 17th, 2,820 on the 23rd, 1,310 on 24th and 590 on the 25th. Counts from Skomer included 620 flying west on 15th Sept, 160

on 22nd Sept and 73 on 7th Oct. Present offshore from Ramsey all year, Max count of 2,240/hr on 7th Nov; CEREDGION: Exceptional numbers at Borth/Ynyslas, with 1,000 on 23rd Aug and 800 on 25th Aug. In autumn, 140 off Aberystwyth on 1st Oct; BRECON: An adult at Llangorse Lake on 23rd March; MONTGOMERY: Two at Llyn Coed y Dinas on 26th and 28th March; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Broadwater on 15th Nov; CAERNARFON: 52 off Criccieth on 28th March. Monthly max counts at the main sites were:

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bardsey			93	101	748	287	125	1001	1477	3947	1022	150
Great Orme			100	2	10	6	70	15	1			2
Little Orme	2	7	25	80			112	99	1	1	4	
Rhos Point	32	50	1	40			100	5	30	2		

ANGLESEY: Off South Stack: 116 on the sea on 10th March and 118 on 29th May. Later in the year, 2,000 passed Point Lynas on 28th Aug in 2.5 hrs; 1,300 on 30th Aug and 1,400 on 3rd Sept; Off North Stack in Nov: 544 on 16th and 440 on 20th Nov. 600 passed Cemlyn on 20th Nov. 2,800 passed Point Lynas in 3.5 hrs on 21st Nov, 200 off Bull Bay on 8th Dec; DENBIGH: All records came from Rhos-on-Sea and Colwyn Bay, max 46 on 1st April.

BONAPARTE'S GULL *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*

GWYLAN BONAPARTE

(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

All records were: E. GLAMORGAN: The returning adult was at Cardiff Heliport Bay from 1st to 15th Feb and in Cardiff Bay on 1st -20th March. At the latter site there were two adults from 24th to 28th March, and a single adult from 29th March to 12th April; GOWER: A 3rd cal year bird at Llanrhidian on 12th May; CARMARTHEN: An adult at Penclacwydd on 3rd Feb was the first county record.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*

GWYLAN BENDDU

(C) A locally common breeding resident, scarce only in south and south-east Wales during the summer months. A common and widespread passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	6051
% of BirdTrack lists	36
No of 1km squares	822

Breeding records were: CARMARTHEN: At least 140 young fledged at Penclacwydd; CEREDIGION: No breeding reports; BRECON: Breeding resumed at Brechfa Pool, with 15 juveniles by the end of July, suggesting that 9-10 pairs had bred. An agitated pair at Llyn Dwr on two dates in May, suggesting a breeding attempt; MONTGOMERY: About 300 pairs on eggs by the end of March at Llyn Coed y Dinas, but the water level rose and flooded early nesters. Some survived or re-laid and by the end of June c.280 airborne fledglings were reported; MEIRIONNYDD: No indications of breeding; CAERNARFON: Only one breeding record, a sitting bird seen at Morfa Madryn on 18th May, and a pair still

here on 9th June, but they may have failed; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn, c. 450 pairs bred with an estimated 370 chicks fledged successfully, an average breeding success of c. 0.82 per nest. Two AON at Valley Wetlands; FLINT: 163 occupied nests at Shotton Steel Works with 430 nestlings ringed. The number of young fledged was estimated to be between 416 and 420, a breeding success of approx. 2.56 chicks per nest.

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 1,000 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN												
Cardiff Bay	1500	700	620	4	17	12	190	1800	270	560	370	500
Cardiff Heliport	150	50	100				600	200	100	500	1500	
Rhymney/Lamby area		1500										
GWENT												
Undy foreshore	28	231	10	7			928	2024	1176	180	242	347
R.Usk-Llanllowell to Newbridge	370									40		1855
GOWER												
Blackpill	3980	956	827	24	27	132	218	1001	721	1920	2450	2350
Penclawdd	500	250	300	243	260	203	300	1245	600	690	1050	2
CARMARTHEN												
Gwendraeth	30								27	1734		187
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est (WeBs)	603	624	829						884	1049	417	539
Llys-y-fran Res	1000	1000										
CEREDIGION												
Llansantffraed	2000											
Teifi Estuary		1500										
BRECON												
Llangorse Lake	700	1050		550				10		230	900	1100
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			2	10	3	23	76	84	452	2175	935	85
Traeth Lafan	70	85				200	704	2700	3000	120	20	40
ANGLESEY												
Malltraeth												1000
DENBIGH												
Bodfari												1214
FLINT												
RSPB Oakenholt	50	40	40		50	200	200	1000	60	50	600	200

Other counts of 1,000+ were: GOWER: Max counts at various Burry Inlet and Gower locations included: 1,400 at Pwll-y-froga on 28th Aug, 1,074 at Wernffrwd on 13th July and 1,330 there on 17th Aug; 2,220 at Llanrhidian on 31st July and 1,157 there on 3rd Aug; 1,170 at Weobley: on 12th Oct. 1,064 south of Loughor Bridge on 9th Aug.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*

GWYLAN FECHAN

(B) A fairly common, sometimes common passage migrant and winter visitor to the coast, scarce inland. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	150
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	49

A summary of records: GWENT: One off Goldcliff Point on 28th Nov and an adult the next day; E. GLAMORGAN: 62 reports from five locations. An adult in Cardiff Bay and occasionally the nearby River Taff by Hamadryad Park from 3rd March to 1st April. An adult off Porthcawl on 29th Nov; two by W. Aberthaw/Gileston on 2nd Dec; one from Lavernock Point and 'present' at Gileston on 5th Dec, then singles at the latter site on 9th, 28th and 29th Dec; GOWER: Singles in May at Mumbles Head on 9th, south of Loughor Bridge on 22nd and at Bracelet Bay on 25th. On autumn passage, singles at Bracelet Bay/Mumbles Head on 13th, 15th and 16th Aug. In the east, singles at Port Talbot and at Margam Sands on 16th Aug and at Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir on 22nd and 26th Aug, with one at Margam Sands on 15th Sept; CARMARTHEN: An adult at Sandy W.P. on 16th-29th April and possibly the same at Penclacwydd from 5th-17th May and 8th-24th June and at Pembrey Harbour on 3rd and 19th July; PEMBROKE: At Strumble Head a total of 16 recorded between 23rd Aug and 11th Dec: two adults, a single 2nd calendar year bird and 13 juvenile/1st winter birds (max 3 on 25th Sept). Elsewhere, a 2nd calendar year bird at West Angle on 31st Aug and a 1st winter bird at Carew on 17th Sept. Skokholm had single birds on 16th Oct and 20th Nov. Two 1st winter birds off Ramsey on 29th Nov and a single there on 30th-31st Dec. An adult was at the Gann from 10th Dec until the end of the year; CEREDIGION: A very poor year with few records: one at Ynyslas on 4th Jan, one at Aberystwyth on 1st April and one at Ynyslas on 10th April; BRECON: An immature at Llangorse Lake on 23rd April; MONTGOMERY: An adult at Llyn Coed y Dinas on 29th-30th April; MEIRIONNYDD: Two at the Glaslyn Marshes on 10th Jan; one on the Glaslyn est on 14th Nov and an adult there on 8th Dec; CAERNARFON: One off the Little Orme on 4th April and 4 off the Great Orme on 22nd May. In the second half of the year, an unusual 8 at Aber Ogwen on 8th July and singles off Rhos Point on 19th and 29th July and 10th Aug and off Penrhyn Bay on 3rd and 18th Aug. 6 off the Great Orme on 22nd Oct and 15 there on 8th Nov. One was off the Little Orme on 11th Aug, and two there on 21st Nov. Further west, one off Abersoch on 6th Nov and in the Tremadog Bay area, one off Crickieth on 18th Nov, 4 on 29th, 7 on 30th Nov and one on 5th Dec. Records off Bardsey began with one on 15th July and continued to 31st Dec, with a total of 35 birds recorded (max 3 on 10th and 26th Oct); ANGLESEY: A 1st winter bird in Bull Bay on 10th Jan, one in Holyhead Harbour on 11th Jan and an adult off Ynys Feurig on 31st May. At Cemlyn, 1st summer birds on 9th and 21st-22nd June. From Point Lynas: a juvenile passed on 3rd Sept, an adult on 6th Sept, and 8 on 21st Nov. An adult was off Bull Bay on 8th Dec; DENBIGH: Singles at RSPB Conwy on 10th and 17th Aug, possibly the same bird.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Larus melanocephalus*

GWYLAN MOR Y CANOLDIR

(B) An increasingly common visitor, chiefly to coastal counties at all times of the year. Rare inland. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	667
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	170

Breeding information: CARMARTHEN: Two pairs attempted to breed at Penclacwydd. One had their eggs predated by a Moorhen, whilst the other hatched one young that died before fledging; ANGLESEY: At least four pairs at Cemlyn early in the breeding season, but only one pair remained to breed, rearing one juvenile which fledged mid-July. A pair of displaying immature birds was seen regularly in May, and unpaired adult male also spent a lot of time trying to pair up with Black-headed Gulls for the sixth season running. It was observed feeding Black-headed Gull chicks regularly in July, presumably having ousted a male Black-headed from a sitting pair!

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 10 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN												
*Kenfig Pool	1						1	3	1	29	15	1
Porthcawl seafront	1	2					1	2			10	1
Rest Bay	4								14	8	3	10
GOWER												
Blackpill	10	27	8	-	1	9	90	68	58	116	14	91
Bracelet Bay	46	50	32	11	-	8	38	167	87	102	64	6
CARMARTHEN												
Penclacwydd		1	1	12	12	30	41		1			2
Burry Port/ Pembrey Hb							25	39	11	4	1	
Sandy W.P.	1	2					25			31		
PEMBROKE												
Angle Bay	3						26		13		2	1
Gann	37	31	5	1			4		1	33	75	10
Skokholm						1	2	1	5	70	13	
Skomer							1	2	3	13		
Fishguard Harbour	1						2				17	8
CEREDIGION												
Llanon to Llanrhystud							204					
Aberystwyth								382	274			
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey						10			10	44	19	
ANGLESEY												
Inland Sea	9	12	9			3	24	22	7	2	3	1

Other counts of 10+ were: GOWER: Max counts in July, 12 at Wernffrwd on 13th; 61 at Pwll-y-froga on 18th, 11 at Caswell on 20th. 15 at Langland Bay on 22nd; 10 at Llanrhidian Marsh on 1st Aug, 13 at Port Eynon on 12th Nov, 123 at West Cross on 18th Nov;

PEMBROKE: In Sept, a total of 83 passed Strumble Head, of which 20 were adults, five were 2nd calendar year birds and 58 juveniles. Off Skokholm, 634 birds over 26 dates in Oct, recorded daily from the 9th with numbers increasing from 16 on the 12th to 34 on the 15th, 54 on the 17th, 60 on the 20th and 70 on the 23rd. Nov proved the most productive month ever on Skokholm with 1,096 birds logged over 19 dates to the 26th. 92 on 3rd Nov topped the previous Skokholm record of 90 in Nov 2014. There were four three-figure counts in Nov between 10th and 23rd, including 139 on 10th, seemingly the highest day-count yet recorded in the county; CEREDIGION: Good numbers along the coast between Llanon and Llanrhystud, but in smaller numbers than recent years. At Aberystwyth, double-figure counts through to Nov, including 29 at Blaendolau playing fields on 6th; CAERNARFON: Most of the largest counts came from Bardsey and Llŷn, notably 51 at Porth Neigwl on 24th Aug, a record for mainland Caernarfonshire, 20 at Traeth Penllech on 27th Oct and 15 at Aberdaron on 5th Nov; ANGLESEY: A marked passage of birds was noted at Cemlyn in early July, max.12 on 6th July. 20+ on the Inland Sea on 27th Aug.

In the inland counties: BRECON: An adult at Llangorse Lake on 23rd March and an adult there on 16th Sept; MONTGOMERY: At Llyn Coed y Dinas, a 2nd winter bird on 29th-31st March, another on 13th April, a 1st summer bird from end April until 24th May and an adult (with a missing foot) on 30th June. Reported from Dolydd Hafren on 2nd July;

COMMON GULL *Larus canus*

GWYLAN Y GWEUNYDD

(C) A numerous and widespread winter visitor with small numbers recorded on passage. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1355
% of BirdTrack lists	8
No of 1km squares	369

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 500 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT												
Mitchel Troy	700											
GOWER												
Blackpill	290	732	410	110	13	60	37	260	223	128	551	352
CARMARTHEN												
Gwendraeth	124	36	36					1		513	37	3
CEREDIGION												
Llansantffraed	800											
Teifi Estuary		500										
DENBIGH	180	3000	110	3	1	2		1	1	170	18	260
FLINT	480	500	335	10	1	50	12	20	200	134	400	1000

Other counts of 300+ were: GWENT: 300 on low-lying sheep pastures at the Warrage on 3rd Jan; GOWER: Max counts in the Burry Inlet: 358 at Wernffrwd on 17th Aug and 1,440 there on 5th Sept; 493 at Pwll-y-froga on 30th Aug; CAERNARFON: At Traeth Lafan, max

380 in Aug; DENBIGH: An enormous gathering of at least 3,000 at Pensarn on 17th Feb and 500 at Llyn Brenig on 28th Feb; FLINT: Inland, 335 at Padeswood on 12th March. The highest count of the year was 1,000 at Rhuddlan on 29th Dec.

RING-BILLED GULL *Larus delawarensis* GWYLAN FODRWYBIG
(B) *An uncommon but regular visitor to coastal areas, chiefly in the period from mid-February to the end of May. On WRP list.*

The only records were in PEMBROKE, an over-wintering adult at Llys-y-fran res between 10th Jan and 4th March, with presumably the same bird returning on 31st Dec, and a 2nd calendar year bird at the Gann on 21st-29th March.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* GWYLAN GEFNDDU LEIAF
(C) *Breeding summer visitor, passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	5182
% of BirdTrack lists	31
No of 1km squares	950

Breeding records were: GWENT: No records from colonies in the heads of the valleys, or from Chepstow. The colony at Bedwas/Trethomas was occupied; at Newport there were nesting pairs in and around the Uskside Business Park and confirmed breeding at Llanwern Steelworks and Newport Docks, though no counts made. At least one pair nested on a roof on Corporation Road, Newport; and an adult with a chick on a rooftop at Pill. Well inland, confirmed breeding at Hadnock Road, Monmouth for a second consecutive year: 43 breeding pairs on factory roofs. One occupied nest on Denny Island; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding in Cardiff at Canton, Victoria Park and environs, Evelian Court, Gabalfa, Llanishen (5 nests on roof) and Tyndall Street, where 25+ roof-nests. Elsewhere, breeding at Llandaff Village, Flat Holm (3,170 pairs), and Talbot Green (9+ nests on industrial roofs); GOWER: Bred at Giants Grave (6 nests on factory roof), Port Talbot Docks (31 pairs); Afan Way (9 pairs); Cramic Way (7 pairs); Afan Estuary (one pair); Endeavour Close Industrial Estate (9), The Quays, Briton Ferry (3 pairs) and multiple pairs at Baglan Industrial Estate. Probably bred at Neath Abbey ruins; CARMARTHEN: Bred on a factory roof at North Dock, Llanelli, where 112 on 2nd July; PEMBROKE: 426 AON on Caldey, compared to 676 AON in 2014, 16 AON along the Castlemartin peninsula, a decrease from 28 AON in 2014 with very few young apparently fledged. On Skokholm, vantage point counts of the inland breeding colonies and a full census of coastal nesting pairs on 22nd-23rd May recorded 1,275 apparently incubating adults (aia). As a result of walk through counts at 6 sub-colonies to check the accuracy of the counts, a correction factor of 1.25 was applied to inland areas with taller vegetation where some aia were likely to have been missed, giving a corrected total of 1,486 aia. The 1,275 aia (vantage point survey) total was 9.7% down on the 1,407 recorded in 2014 and 13.6% down on the 1,476 recorded in 2013. The corrected total was 5.0% down on the 1,565 pairs logged in 2014 but similar to 2013 total. On Skomer, 7,630 AON (obtained from systematic counts of

island sub-colonies in combination with whole island eye-counts and the application of a correction factor), 9.5% lower than 2014 and a 16.51% decline compared to the five year average 2009-2014. The breeding population remains at a historically low level (62.23% decrease since 1993 when the population was at its peak). Productivity was estimated at 0.69 large chicks per occupied nest, the best since 2010, and 102.94% higher than the 20 year average (1995-2014) of 0.34 chicks per nest. Bred also on Grassholm and Ramsey but no counts made; CEREDIGION: A census at Cardigan Island on 22nd May recorded 505 active nests, compared to 725 in 2013; MONTGOMERY: A small colony at Welshpool, but no counts reported; MEIRIONNYDD: 10 at Craig yr Aderyn on 13th May were presumed to be breeding. 1-2 pairs possibly on breeding territory in the Glaslyn/Dwryd area. Bred at Llyn Trawsfynydd where in the last 4 years the number of chicks appears to be falling. The number of nests isn't recorded but based on numbers of chicks ringed at the colony in 2015 probably 12 - 25; CAERNARFON: 212 AON on Bardsey compared to 315 in 2014, and a minimum of 126 juveniles fledged The productivity of 0.59 is 40.5% higher than the ten-year average. No count on Ynys Gwylan Fawr this year, but 3 AON seen on 9th June on Ynys Gwylan Bach. Roof breeding pairs at Craig-y-don and at Morfa Conwy, with good numbers also breeding on the roof of the old Friction Dynamics building at Griffiths Crossing, Caernarfon, though no count this year. Birds also bred at Llyn Elsi; ANGLESEY: 9 AON at South Stack (cf 8 in 2014 and 11 in 2013). 281 AON on the Skerries, similar to the 2014 figure. Three AON at Valley Wetlands. DENBIGH: Bred at four coastal sites and inland at Llyn Brenig; FLINT: Breeding confirmed at Rhuddlan.

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 200 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN												
Flat Holm								2000				
Cardiff Bay	600	50	200	200	90	70	230	530	200	250	50	60
Cosmeston CP	100	198	140	186	164	138	130	217	160	200	181	150
Rhaslas Pond	30	10		66	100	470	135	170	45	10	5	
Roath Park Lake	120	100	120	250			180	127	100	180	80	80
GOWER												
Blackpill	11	90	45	252	103	320	210	366	79	37	10	7
Upper Loughor	14	21	63	73	84	123	181	475	106	55	10	10
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Estuary	15	8	452						103	95	35	41
Llys-y-fran Reservoir	2000	1000	2500							5000		5000
BRECON												
Llangorse Lake	300	150	53					20	51	1950	600	2200
Pontsticill Reservoir									230		375	
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey			285	161	171	135	175	111	89	77	12	2
DENBIGH												
Llanddulas											350	
FLINT												
Dee Estuary											200	

Other large counts (150+) were: E. GLAMORGAN: 174 at Llanishen Reservoir in Feb and 198 at Caerphilly Castle in Sept; GOWER: Max counts in the Burry Inlet: 156 at Penclawdd on 19th May; 231 at Loughor Bridge on 9th Aug. Elsewhere, 178 at Port Talbot in April and 195 there in May, 430 at Aberavon Beach on 20th May; PEMBROKE: On Skokholm, largest roost counts were in Aug: 420 on the 3rd, 402 on the 6th, 581 on the 14th and 429 on the 18th, well down on 2014 peaks. 350 were at the Teifi est on 20th Dec; 300 at Little Milford on 3rd March; 300+ at Linney Burrows on 6th Sept; CEREDIGION: 150 at the Teifi Estuary on 9th Jan and 350 on 20th Dec with 200 near Henllan on 16th March; BRECON: The largest feeding flock was 203 on plough at Warren Road, Brecon. A roost of 210 at Crai res on 30th July was probably linked to summer passage; MONTGOMERY: 2,000+ in flooded fields at Welshpool on 27th Dec; 200+ at Dolydd Hafren and Caersws also in Dec.

HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus*

GWYLAN Y PENWAIG

(C) Formerly an abundant resident in coastal areas, now much reduced. Frequent in many inland areas, breeding on several freshwater sites. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	9387
% of BirdTrack lists	56
No of 1km squares	1406

Breeding records were: GWENT: No pairs nesting at Denny Island in June, but a fully-grown 1st year bird found dead there. A few pairs bred on a factory roof at Bedwas, a single pair amongst Lesser Black-backed Gulls on a factory roof at Usk Way, Newport, a single nest with eggs at the Brynmawr Animal Pound on 17th May and five pairs in Hadnock Road, Monmouth; E. GLAMORGAN: The only mainland confirmed breeding was in Cardiff at Gabalfa and Llanishen (two nests). 325 AON on Flat Holm; GOWER: Breeding reports from: Rhossili-Mewslade; Factory roof Giants Grave (5 pairs); Port Talbot Docks (14 pairs); Cramic Way (9 pairs); Afan Way (4 pairs); Endeavour Close Industrial Estate (6 pairs); The Quays, Briton Ferry (14+ pairs); CARMARTHEN: Bred on a factory roof at North Dock, Llanelli, where 36 present on 2nd July. Also bred on tall town centre buildings in Llanelli; PEMBROKE: 1,660 AON on Caldey, down from 1,890 AON in 2014. 191 AON along the Castlemartin peninsula, a decrease from 244 AON in 2014 and the lowest number of AON since 1995. On Skokholm, whole Island counts on 19th-21st May located 289 AON. This was a 3.7% drop on the 300 active nests found in 2014, but was 4% up on the 2006-2015 mean and the second highest count since 2010. An apparent hybrid held territory with a Lesser Black-backed Gull at a site also occupied in 2013 and 2014, but the pair were not seen with a nest, eggs or young. What was thought to be a different hybrid was present on 31st July, although not seemingly on territory. A total of 377 AON on Skomer, a 14.32% decrease on 2014 and a 19.76% decline over a five year period. Productivity was 0.69 large chicks per nest, slightly lower than the overall island average, but a marked improvement on the 2014 figure of 0.52 chicks per nest. Bred also on Grassholm and Ramsey but no counts; CEREDIGION: 82 AON on Cardigan Island; MONTGOMERY: No breeding records received but probably a colony at Newtown; MEIRIONNYDD: 50+ pairs on territory at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 6th April. Chicks have been ringed here since 1988, and based on the last four years the number of chicks ringed appears to be falling. The number

of nests could have been between 36 and 72, perhaps higher. Birds heard in Rhiwbryfdir and Blaenau Ffestiniog in roof areas; CAERNARFON: 400 AON on Bardsey compared to 399 AON in 2014, though breeding success wasn't as good as last year. 215 young fledged, yielding a 0.54 productivity rate. An incomplete count of Ynys Gwylan Fawr on 9th June recorded just 36 pairs. It was not possible to land on Ynys Gwylan Bach, but a further 16 AON could be seen. The combined total of 52 pairs is 63.5% below the 2006-2015 mean, and the combined productivity of 0.54 is 15.6% lower than the 2006-2015 mean. Elsewhere, 5 AON at Carreg y Llam and breeding recorded on the Great Orme and the Little Orme. One pair bred on the ground at Morfa Madryn. Roof breeding records included a minimum of 70+ nests at Llandudno/Craig y Don/Llandudno Junction, two pairs at Penrhynside and at least one in the Caernarfonshire part of Rhos-on-sea. At Morfa Conwy, there were 6 nests at Morfa Business Park and 11 nests at the Morfa Conwy Enterprise Park. Three AON were recorded at Conwy and one pair bred at Bryn-y-neuadd, Llanfairfechan. A minimum of 250+ pairs bred on the roof of the old Friction Dynamics factory at Griffith's Crossing, Caernarfon; ANGLESEY: 140 AON at South Stack, well down on the 194 AON recorded there in 2014 and the 173 in 2013. 912 AON on the Skerries, down from 1,006 in 2014; DENBIGH: Breeding was confirmed at at least eight coastal sites, and inland at Nant-y-Glyn, Bodelwyddan, Llyn Brenig and Denbigh; FLINT: Breeding was confirmed at three coastal sites, and inland at St Asaph and Mold.

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 1,000 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
E. GLAMORGAN												
Rhymney Estuary		120		20				10		162	1280	60
GOWER												
Whiteford	30	47	60	34	95	482	380	802	2152	358	4	150
Blackpill	340	471	238	372	360	1122	298	422	937	396	1140	1053
PEMBROKE												
Cleddau Est (WeBs)	150	2647	660						233	1431	205	386
CEREDIGION												
New Quay	2000											
BRECON												
Pontsticill Res.		1500	0						1050	1330	1775	1250
CAERNARFON												
Hell's Mouth	38	72	170	26	34	12		78	1500	42	20	24
Black Rock Sands										1500		
DENBIGH												
Llanddulas	800	2000	6	1	8	2	1	250	6	2500	500	1
Towyn / Pensarn	400	8000	250	500	50	45	20	40	10	500	1000	3000
FLINT												
Rhuddlan area	250	50	1000	217	350	40	87	25	1	179	80	104

Other counts of 1,000 or more were: E. GLAMORGAN: 1,000 in a field at Llantrithyd on 10th Jan, GOWER: Max counts in the Burry Inlet: 1,795 at Weobley on 30th April, 1,270 at Wernffrwd on 28th Aug and 1,545 at Llanrhidian on 3rd Sept. Max counts elsewhere

included 1,248 at Crymlyn Burrows west on 31st March; FLINT: 1,000+ feeding on stubble at Bagillt on 18th Jan before flying down to the Dee Estuary to roost.

A count of 300 at St Harmon RADNOR in December was the highest ever for the county.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis*

GWYLAN GOESFELEN

(A) *An uncommon and irregular winter visitor to coastal areas, formerly rare.*

No of BirdTrack records	85
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	22

All records were:GWENT: Adult or near adult birds on several dates during the first winter period at Llandegfedd res, and two here on 27th Dec. An approachable juvenile here on 3rd-5th Aug looked emaciated and was later found dead; E. GLAMORGAN: Max three adults in Cardiff Bay on 1st Jan; a 2nd calendar year bird at Cardiff Bay WR on the same day, then an adult in Cardiff Bay on several dates to 17th Jan. An adult on Roath Park Lake on 11th Jan. Singles reported at Cosmeston CP on fifty dates from 2nd Jan to 31st March. Age was reported as adult in 16 instances and as 1st winter in two (30th and 31st March), presumed to be the same bird.Elsewhere, a 1st winter bird at Ogmor river mouth on 1st Feb,a 2nd summer bird at Llanishen res on 18th Feb and two adults on 24th Feb. Present at Ogmor-by-Sea on 27th March, and one at UHW Cardiff on 2nd April. Later in the year, singles at Cosmeston CP and at Forest Farm on 29th June; a 1st calendar year bird, then a 2nd calendar year bird at Cosmeston CP on 30th June and 4th Aug respectively. An adult at Llanishen res on 31st Aug; two adults there on 5th Sept. Single adults at Portobello–Ogmor on 4th Nov and at Llanishen res on 4th Dec. Three adults at Cardiff Bay on 6th Dec, and finally an adult at Llanishen Res on 31st Dec; GOWER: A 2nd calendar year bird at Staffal Haegr on 10th March and a 3rd calendar year bird at Penclawdd Pill on 21st March. A juvenile at Pwll-y-froga on 1st Aug, an adult south of Loughor Bridge on 7th and 9th Aug, two at Leason Pill on 14th Aug; singles at Fendrod Lake on 23rd Aug and at Daltons Point on 31st Oct; CARMARTHEN: An adult at North Dock on 14th Jan and a juv at Penclawdd on 9th-10th Aug; PEMBROKE: Single adults at Llys-y-fran Res on 6th Feb, 30th Oct and 31st Dec, a 2nd calendar year bird there on 17th Jan and a 2nd calendar year bird at Angle Bay on 10th April; CEREDGION: Single adults in the Teifi Estuary gull roost on 5th Jan, in Aberaeron harbour on 17th Jan and at Llanon on 27th Sept ;BRECON: Two at Llangorse Lake in Jan, singles in Feb (including displaying to a Lesser Black-backed Gull on 27th), May, Oct, Nov and Dec. Away from Llangorse, most probably the same individual was still cavorting with a LBBG, at Brechfa Pool on 16th and 26th March; RADNOR: A returning adult at Glasbury and Llowes in Jan and Sept-Dec; ANGLESEY: An adult on the Alaw Est on 11th Sept; DENBIGH: Single birds at RSPB Conwy on 25th Feb, 21st March and 5th May; FLINT: Single birds at Connah’s Quay NR on 8th and 29th March, 25th June and 15th Sept.

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucooides***GWYLAN YR ARCTIG**

(A) *An uncommon and irregular winter visitor to coastal areas, formerly rare.*

No of BirdTrack records	155
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	24

All records were: GWENT: A 2nd calendar year bird off Peterstone Sluice on 22nd March; E. GLAMORGAN: A 2nd calendar year bird at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 22nd March, the same as above, later moved up the River Taff to Taff's Mead Embankment where it remained until 24th April; PEMBROKE: A 2nd winter bird at Llys-y-fran Res on 10th Jan; a 2nd winter bird at the Gann on 29th March; a 1st winter bird at Skomer on 29th March; a 1st winter bird at Llys-y-fran Res on 26th Feb, and a 1st winter bird at St. Justinians on 27th Dec; CEREDIGION: One at Aberystwyth on 18th March and a 1st winter bird at Teifi Est on 14th April; BRECON: A 1st winter bird at Llangorse Lake from 27th to 29th Dec, also at Gilfach Farm, Llangorse; ANGLESEY: One at Point Lynas on 2nd Dec; DENBIGH: A juvenile or 1st winter bird was seen at a several sites in the Pensarn area on many dates from 16th Feb to 5th April. There were other singles at Llanddulas on 23rd Feb, Colwyn Bay on 4th March and RSPB Conwy on 3rd April; FLINT: A single at White Sands on the Dee Est on 21st Nov.

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus***GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD**

(A) *An uncommon but regular visitor to coastal areas of Wales, chiefly in winter but occasionally in summer.*

No of BirdTrack records	78
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	36

All records were: E. GLAMORGAN: A 2nd calendar year bird at Cosmeston CP on 15th Jan. Further west, a 1st winter bird was at Sker Point on 15th Jan was reported at various sites from around Porthcawl to Pink Bay until 12th April; GOWER: A juvenile at Crymlyn Burrows on 18th Feb also roosted in Port Talbot Steelworks on 11th April. An adult at Aberavon Beach on 4th May; PEMBROKE: 1st winter birds at Marloes between 4th and 10th Jan (also at the Gann on 10th), at Angle Bay between 11th and 19th Feb, at Llys-y-fran Res on 1st March, at Skomer on 14th-18th March and at Penberi Res on 26th March; CEREDIGION: A good year with one at Ynyslas on 4th Jan, a 2nd winter bird at RSPB Ynys-hir on 22nd Jan, a 2nd winter bird on 1st and 3rd Feb, a 1st winter bird at Cwm Silio on 7th Feb, a 2nd winter bird in Aberystwyth harbour on 6th March and another at Cardigan Island on 2nd April; MONTGOMERY: One at the Upper Dyfi Estuary on 23rd and 29th Jan and 5th Feb; MEIRIONNYDD: A juvenile at Glandyfi on 1st-2nd Feb; CAERNARFON: A 1st winter bird on Bardsey on 31st March, an adult there the next day and a sub-adult at Llanfaelrhys on 11th April; ANGLESEY: A 1st winter bird in Red Wharf Bay on 14th Feb, one in Holyhead Bay on 15th Feb and a 1st winter bird at Bull Bay on 31st March.

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FWYAF

(C) Common and widespread in coastal areas in winter, widely distributed breeding bird along rocky coastlines in single pairs or small colonies. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2943
% of BirdTrack lists	18
No of 1km squares	646

Monthly maximum counts from sites recording 30 or more at least once are:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
CARMARTHEN												
Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Pt.	92	8	39						50	60	78	55
Pendacwydd	15	2	2	2			1	2	2	4	38	16
PEMBROKE												
Frainslake/Bluckspool	1								113	122		11
Cleddau Estuary (WeBs)	15	15	24						6	10	16	42
Skokholm (roost counts)								118	249	166	71	
Skomer								67	120	136		
CEREDIGION												
Teifi Estuary												34
Ynyslas	39											
CAERNARFON												
Traeth Lafan	2	2	2	3	4		35	22	21	21	2	6
Bardsey			18	23	9	12	11	56	40	31	11	15
DENBIGH												
Llanddulas beach	97	23	22								30	
FLINT												
Oakenholt	30	7					6	12	20	23	50	46

Other counts of 30+ were: GOWER: In the Burry Inlet, 71 at Berges Island on 11th Dec. Elsewhere, 49 at Pwlldu Point on 12th July; PEMBROKE: Largest counts were 150 at Dale Airfield on 13th Sept and 172 at Linney Burrows on 6th Sept.

Breeding records were: GWENT: Breeding confirmed on Denny Island. During a visit on 7th June there were c.60 adult/immature birds, 16 AON and 26 pulli; E. GLAMORGAN: A single pair nested on Flat Holm; GOWER: Probably bred at The Quays and possibly bred at Lamb's Well; PEMBROKE: Six AON on Caldey - no change from 2014, two AON along the Castlemartin peninsula was half the number recorded in recent years and the lowest in c.30 years of annual monitoring. On Skokholm, a total of 83 AON in May, the third highest total for the island and just one less than the record totals of 2014 and 2011. A whole island total of 123 AON on Skomer was a 14.95% increase on last year, 22% higher than the ten year mean of 101 AON and the highest figure since 1975. Productivity was 1.64 chicks per AON, slightly lower than 2014, but still the second highest productivity figure since records began in 1996. Bred also on Grassholm and Ramsey but no counts made; CEREDIGION: No breeding counts; MEIRIONNYDD: Four showing signs of courtship on the Dwyryd Estuary on 2nd April; CAERNARFON: Six AON on Bardsey, compared to five in 2014. Productivity there was reasonable, with at least 11 juveniles known to have fledged.

91 nest platforms and 56 juveniles on Ynys Gwylan Fawr on 9th June. It was not possible to land on Ynys Gwylan Bach, but one platform with three juveniles could be seen. The combined total of 92 pairs is the highest ever recorded, breaking last year's record of 79 pairs, and 89.2% above the 2006-2015 mean. The combined productivity of 0.64 is rather low, 37.9% below the 2006-2015 mean. Pairs were noted on the Great Orme in April and May; ANGLESEY: 28 AON on the Skerries, slightly up on the 25 recorded in 2014. Three AON at Valley wetlands, compared to 5 there in 2014. One pair nested at South Stack. At Cemlyn, two pairs appeared to be resident around the reserve; DENBIGH: A pair prospected at the BT Openreach site at Mochdre, but probably did not breed.

FERAL PIGEON

Columba livia

COLOMEN Y GRAIG

(C) Common resident in most towns and on some sea cliffs. Greatly under-recorded. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2732
% of BirdTrack lists	17
No of 1km squares	462

Large counts (50+) were: GWENT: The highest aggregations were at Nedern wetland with 110 on 13th Oct and 200 on 3rd Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: 50 by Sully Beach on 11th Feb, and 65 in Canton, Cardiff, on 16th Feb. In spring, 106 at Victoria Park, Cardiff, on 4th April and 85 at Roath Park Lake on 12th April. In autumn and the second winter period, 57 at Caerphilly Castle Moat on 16th Aug, max 53 at Cosmeston CP during Aug and Sept, 120 at Victoria Park, Cardiff, on 17th Sept, 85 at Roath Park Lake on 16th Oct, 50 at The Knap Lake on 26th Oct, and 60 at Pontypridd on 20th Nov. The vast majority of reports came from the southern half of the recording area; GOWER: Max mainly from Brynmill Park c.60 on 25th Jan, 64 on 11th April, 72 on 18th July, 163 on 15th Aug, 105 on 21st Sept and in Oct max 137 on 10th, c.200 at Victoria Gardens/Neath on 13th Jan, 180 - 220 regular in Neath town centre all year and 50 at Knab Rock on 23rd Nov; CAERNARFON: 53 at Pwllheli on 17th Sept. Birds passing Bardsey are thought to be directionally challenged racing pigeons, with the peak counts recorded on bank holidays, peaking with at least 153 heading N on 30th May; DENBIGH: Max count was a roost of 180 at Kinnel Bay on 6th Jan; FLINT: The highest count was 70 at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, on 6th Dec.

STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas*

COLOMEN WYLLT

(C) Breeding resident occurring widely but not numerously, most common in lowland areas. May be getting scarcer across most of Wales, probably as a result of a change in farming practices and a decline in arable land. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	617
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	279

Breeding records were: GWENT: Five nests at Blaenllwynan Farm near Hafodrynys all failed to produce young; E. GLAMORGAN: No breeding reports, but birds reported in the

breeding season at c. 12 sites in the south of the recording area; GOWER: Probably bred at Graig Goch Farm/Margam Park; CARMARTHEN: A pair bred at Halfway, raising 2 young from 2 eggs. Another pair at Cynghordy was successful on the first attempt but on the second attempt an adult was predated on the nest, presumably by a mammal. A pair raised 3 broods in a Tawny Owl box at Cynwyl Elfed; PEMBROKE: 2 pairs bred at Llanychaer; CEREDIGION: Breeding season records from Parth y Barcud, Ystrad Meurig, Cors Caron, Cors Ian and Frongoch mine; BRECON: 35 pairs or singing males in south Breconshire between late Feb and late July; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair at Gelli Isaf, Bala on 17th April. One at Pont Croesor on 27th April indicates possible breeding here. The species is considered to be in serious decline in the county; CAERNARFON: Pairs recorded at Penrhyn Bay, Llandrillo-yn-rhos and Llanbedr-y-cennin, but no evidence of breeding; ANGLESEY: Bred at Malltraeth Marsh; DENBIGH: The only confirmed breeding report was the ringing of 2 nestlings near Cerrigyddudion on 17th May; FLINT:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glasfryn	1	2	2	2	2.00
Shotton Paper	3	6	2	2	0.67
TOTALS	4	8	4	4	1.00

Outside the breeding season, large counts (15+) were: GWENT: 25 on Ysgyryd Fach on 3rd April. Autumn passage at Peterstone Wentlooge began in Aug with 62 on 3rd, 52 on 19th and 200 on 29th, then 20 on 6th Sept, 40 on 25th Oct and 20 on 8th Nov. In the lower Monnow valley, there were 19 on 19th Dec; E. GLAMORGAN: 17 at Cwmrisca on 10th Jan, 32 at SS9978 east of City on 17th Feb, 23 S.E. of Wick on 27th Sept; CARMARTHEN: Max counts were of birds feeding on the stubble field at Penlan Uchaf with 39 on 6th Jan, 42 on 9th Feb, 31 on 16th March and 40 on 20th Nov; PEMBROKE: 25 at Carew river on 22nd Nov, 16 at Castlemartin Corse on 1st Feb, 15 at Newton Farm on 28th Feb; CEREDIGION: 20 at Cors Caron on 13th Dec; BRECON: 35 on cereal stubble at Lower Nantfelin (Cathedine) on 16th Feb. On 4th Oct, 25 near Bronllys and on 24th December, 20 gleaned seed on cereal stubbles near Pennorth; MONTGOMERY: Highest count was 64+ at Dolydd Hafren on 20th Sept; MEIRIONNYDD: 15 at Glyndyfrdwy on 11th July; DENBIGH: 50+ at Trevalyn Meadows on 21st Nov; FLINT: The Deeside area held the highest counts, max 102 at Connah's Quay NR on 15th Feb and 100 at Shotwick Fields on 12th Sept.

WOODPIGEON *Columba palumbus*

YSGUTHAN

(C) Abundant breeding species: passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	9341
% of BirdTrack lists	57
No of 1km squares	1716

Breeding counts and large flocks (300+) were: GWENT: 450 at Manmoel on 17th Jan. It was well into Oct before the first really large movement, when 3,750 flew past Pen-y-lan on 25th Oct. In early Nov, large flocks began to appear on the coast, with 1,225 over Peterstone Wentlooge on 2nd Nov, 8,055 over Pen-y-lan on 8th Nov then on 12th Nov, an extraordinary 102,800 past Peterstone Wentlooge. Elsewhere, 500 over

Ysgyryd Fach on 8th Nov and 300 west over the Celtic Manor Hotel and 500 over Llangybi on 12th Nov. Back on the coast, 600 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 13th Nov and 15,000 on 14th while on the latter date a flock of c.1,000 briefly at Llandegfedd Res before flying southwest. 500 were at Undy on 16th Nov, and continuing coastal passage, with 2,000 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 16th and 2,460 there on 17th with 1,000 over NWR on 18th Nov. Undy had 500 again on 19th Nov and, on 20th, 800 flew past Goldcliff Point and 400 headed over Magor. Slightly inland, at Portskewett, on 20th Nov, 48,900 birds were recorded while on 21st Nov 5,000 at NWR. There were 24,200 past Portskewett on 22nd Nov, then numbers tailed off rapidly, with only 300 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 24th and 25th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: 1,250 flying E.N.E. in one hour at Bargoed on 25th Jan. High counts during autumn and the second winter period were 400 over Radyr on 3rd Oct, 300 west at The Knap Lake on 26th Oct, 1,020 over Cardiff Bay Barrage on 2nd Nov, 1,000 at Lavernock Pt on 2nd Nov. There were sizeable movements on 11th and 12th Nov. On 11th there were 3,000 at Lavernock Pt, 2,500 at Roath Basin & Mermaid Quay, 1,000 at Canton, Cardiff, 650 at Cardiff Bay Barrage and 600 at Hendre Lake. On 12th there were 25,250 over Grangemoor Park, Cardiff, (the second highest ever count), 14,100 over Canton, 4,000 at Lavernock Pt, 773 SE at Kenfig Pool and 500 S at Whitchurch, Cardiff. The next movements were on 20th and 21st with 14,340 at Cardiff Bay, 2,860 at Kenfig Pool 600 at Cyncoed and 400 at Cosmeston CP on 20th, and 4,000 at St. Donat's and 200 at Kenfig Pool on 21st. There were 38,300 over Cardiff Bay WR on 22nd Nov (the highest ever count here), and 683 at Kenfig Pool on 23rd Nov. Finally there were 14,200 over Canton, Cardiff, on 11th Dec; CARMARTHEN: Max c.300 at Llanedi on 21st Nov; PEMBROKE: Breeding evidence recorded in c70 1km squares; BRECON: Autumn passage was first noted on 23rd Oct, max 400/hr moved west over Llangorse early on 21st Nov and between 8am and 9am on 22nd November, 1,400 flew S-SW down the Llynfi corridor and over Pennorth; CAERNARFON: At least 11 pairs bred on Bardsey, the highest population for 24 years; DENBIGH: The highest count was at Nant-y-Glyn with at least 1,000 on 23rd Nov; FLINT: The maximum count of 400+ was at Rhuddlan on 19th Jan.

COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

TURTUR DORCHOG

(C) Now a widespread and common resident, having first appeared in Wales in 1959. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3214
% of BirdTrack lists	19
No of 1km squares	665

Counts of 25 or more were: E. GLAMORGAN: 53 at Slade Farm on 18th Oct and 35 at Norton Farm on 21st Oct, GOWER: 25 at Broughton Farm on 26th May; PEMBROKE: Max count was 47 at Rhossan Fm near St Justinian on 5th June; CAERNARFON: The largest counts came from the Llandudno area. A roost in conifers in Llandudno centre held 37 birds on 7th Jan. There were also 37 near Glanwydden on 5th Aug and 35 near Penrhyn Bay on 5th Sept; FLINT: The highest count came from Ynys, Rhyl with at least 50 on 3rd Dec, and the highest Garden Bird Watch count of 41 came from St. Asaph on 20th Sept.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

TURTUR

(B) Scarce summer visitor in eastern Wales with numbers declining further; passage migrant, mainly spring, in small numbers. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	9
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	7

No records of breeding or possible breeding were submitted:

Records of passage birds: PEMBROKE: Singles on Skomer on 18th & 20th May and on Skokholm on 9th June; MONTGOMERY: One in a garden at Pentre'r beirdd on 10th June; CAERNARFON: In spring, one on Bardsey on 10th May and one between Llanybi and Llanystumdwy on 24th May. In autumn, an immature bird on Bardsey on 11th Sept; ANGLESEY: One at Aberffraw on 11th May and one in a private garden near Penrhos CP on 2nd Oct; DENBIGH: The only record was a single near Eglwyseg on 24th May.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius*

COG FRECH

(A) Very rare visitor, on BBRC list.

An observer walking though the Cwm Cadlan Nature Reserve just N.E. of Penderyn E. GLAMORGAN on 15th April was alerted by a strange call, and his persistence in tracking it down, produced an excellent find of an imm/2nd cal year Great Spotted Cuckoo, a first record for the recording area and Glamorgan. It remained until 17th April. This is the 5th record for Wales.

CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

COG

(C) Formerly a locally common breeding summer visitor to all counties but appears to be declining and far from common; also recorded on passage. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	564
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	342

BBS results show a 43% decline in Wales between 1995 and 2012. The BTO have attached satellite tracking devices to Cuckoos, including a number from Wales, to investigate their migration routes and wintering quarters. Results so far indicate heavy mortality on migration, but 'David' the cuckoo ringed and tagged by Tony Cross in May 2012 arrived back at Cors Caron CEREDIGION on 29th April having wintered in the Congo.

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	20 th April	NWR Uskmouth	28 th Aug	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	16 th April	4 sites	25 th Sept	N of Cwm Nash
GOWER	17 th April	Lapadranta Fm & Bryn LNR	20 th July	Birchgrove
CARMARTHEN	16 th April	Allt Rhyd y Groes	7 th Oct.	Pembrey Burrows
PEMBROKE	17 th April	Plumstone	6 th Aug	Johnston

CEREDIGION	15 th April	Rhos Llawr Cwrt	2 nd Aug	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	14 th April	Pistyllgwyn (Llanwrthwl)	2 nd Aug	Ffynnon Bevan, MOD Epynt
RADNOR	14 th April	Rhosgoch	12 th Aug	The Begwyns
MONTGOMERY	12 th April	Llanfechain & Castle Caereinion*		
MEIRIONNYDD	14 th April	Hafod Uchel, Benwyn	30 th June	Croesor
CAERNARFON	16 th April	3 sites	8 th Aug	Cors Geirch
ANGLESEY	16 th April	Mynydd Bodafon	27 th July	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	15 th April	Blaen-y-weirglodd	28 th June	Llyn Brenig
FLINT	22 nd April	Garth, Cilcain	16 th Aug	Point of Ayr

* Castle Caereinion record w/e 12th April.

GWENT: Widespread reports, most from the coast or the more mountainous areas in the north. Max 4 at Newport Wetlands on 19th May. Breeding was confirmed when a juvenile was found, being fed by a pair of Dunnock, at Caerwent MoD on 31st July, though breeding undoubtedly much more widespread; E. GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding reports but males seen or heard calling at c. 20 sites throughout May and June and a juv at Parc Slip NR on 17th June. A pair plus a male at Craig Fargoed on 14th June and 3 birds at Cefn Cadlan on 22nd May, Taff Bargoed on 1st June, around Twyn-giden Farm on 3rd June, and at Blaen-nant, Abernant, on 5th June; GOWER: Probably bred at Pant y Sais, with singles reported from 50 localities; CARMARTHEN: Records were received from 25 widespread sites in the county, max 3 (2 males and a female) at Pâl y Cwrt on 27th May. No confirmed breeding but pairs at both Mynydd Llanllwni and Mynydd Pencarreg on 23rd May; PEMBROKE: Breeding evidence from only three 1km squares; CEREDIGION: Recorded at 49 sites throughout the county, a welcome upsurge in records (30 locations in 2014, 25 in 2013, 29 in 2012, 22 locations in 2011 and 25 locations in 2010); BRECON: 53 males reported in song until 24th June. Six in a small area around Hen Llanwrthwl on 13th May. 10 females recorded, a better reporting rate than usual; MEIRIONNYDD: Birds were recorded from 63 sites, compared to 75 sites in 2014. Max 3 at Llidiardau on 23rd May and at Crawcwellt on 25th May; CAERNARFON: Records from 49 sites, mainly in the valleys of Snowdonia. Highest counts were 7 at Cefn Cyfarwydd above Trefriw on 7th June and 6+ between Llyn Crafnant and Capel Curig on 23rd May; ANGLESEY: A pair at Cemlyn on 7th May and 5th June with a juv there from 30th June to 27th July. Birds recorded at another 8 sites; DENBIGH: Recorded in 36 1km squares, max 5 at Moel Famau on 27th April and 4 at Fenn's Moss on 21st May; FLINT: Recorded in 9 1km squares, all records of singles.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba*

TYLLUAN WEN

(C) A breeding resident in all counties. The population may be stable in the long term in many counties, but numbers are still considerably reduced in some areas following a run of cold winters. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	152
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	105

GWENT: More records than in recent years, though several were of road casualties. Bred at 12 sites, with only one nest known to have failed, though the outcome of several was not known; E. GLAMORGAN: Reported from 22 locations, but only one confirmed breeding report, from Pen-y-Garreg Farm just N of Bargoed, where 3 young apparently fledged. Birds seen near possible nest sites at Frampton (just N of Llantwit Major), and Dunraven. There were fewer reports than in 2014, only two thirds the number, with most from the coastal strip south of the M4 motorway. There was one reported road casualty, by the A48M near St. Mellons on 19th July; GOWER: Bred at Willoxton Farm and Graig Goch Farm, with 2 at Cheriton Churchyard on 30th April. 1-2 birds recorded at another 12 sites; CARMARTHEN: Recorded at 6 sites; PEMBROKE: Only reported from 12 locations. Confirmed breeding at Aberforest and probable breeding at Boulston, near Uzmaston; BRECON: A better year with an increased number of sightings. In the early year, hunting birds at 5 sites, but another fell victim to A470 traffic at Rhydywernen Farm (Brecon) in Feb. Breeding was proven near Crickhowell where two young were reared, and suspected at Llywel, Brecon (N), near Llanfilo, and at Talgarth. Singles in April/May at Sennybridge village and near Heol Senni could also indicate breeding. An adult found dead near Upper Chapel in July was potentially a breeding bird, believed killed by a Peregrine Falcon. Late in the year, reports of hunting birds suggested re-colonisation of former sites, such as Abergwesyn and in Glyn Collwn, with birds reported at another 4 sites; MONTGOMERY: 2015 was a boom year with 69 pairs, the highest total for the county since the record high of 73 pairs in 2005; MEIRIONNYDD: Two pairs bred successfully at Trawscoed, Llanuwchllyn with 4 chicks ringed (6 eggs) and 2 chicks ringed (5 eggs). One of the ringed chicks from the first nest was found dead near the site on 16th July. Birds were seen at another 11 sites; CAERNARFON: Confirmed breeding at two sites, one of them new. Birds were recorded at another 21 sites; ANGLESEY: Unsuccessfully nested at a farm in Llanfaelog. Birds were recorded at another 11 sites, max 3 at Malltraeth on 28th July; DENBIGH: Recorded in 21 1km squares. Most records of singles with the max counts being broods of nestlings max 4 near Gwytherin on 30th June. One was found freshly dead at Pentrecelyn on 4th March, not close to any known breeding site. 4 records of singles from different parts of Mynydd Hiraethog on 13th May and 3 dates in Dec suggests that there are feeding opportunities on higher ground, even during the winter; FLINT: Recorded in 5 1km squares. The largest count was 4 nestlings ringed near Sandycroft on 16th July.

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
DENBIGH	11	38	28	25	2.27
FLINT	2	10	6	6	3.00

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

TYLLUAN FACH

(C) Locally common breeding resident in some eastern counties, scarcer and probably decreasing in the west. Records have been fewer in many counties in recent years, and it has been suggested that the species is now more nocturnal than previously.

No of BirdTrack records	59
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	40

GWENT: Only 12 reports, three from NWR, with birds seen on 20th March, 11th April and 24th Dec. Others came from Llanvihangel Gobion, Llanfair Kilgeddin, Llangybi and Llanwenarth, most of single birds but two at Llanfair Kilgeddin and Llangybi. Breeding was confirmed at Llanfair Kilgeddin, with a nest with four eggs, and occupied nests found at Llanover, Llanvihangel Crucorney, Llanwenarth and Llandegfedd village, where a farmer reported breeding; E. GLAMORGAN: The only confirmed breeding was at Sker Farm where 2 juvs and 2 ads were seen on 15th July. Two near a barn in Wick, Vale of Glamorgan, on 24th June and regular reports of one at Pen-y-Garreg Farm, Bargoed, in Jan, seen via a camera 'trap'. All other reports were of single birds and came from Southerndown (Jan & Oct), Ogmore-by-Sea (Feb, March & Nov), Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm (May & June), Llanwonno/ Ynyshir (N of Porth) on 4th June, Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr (Nov), Deri, Bargoed (Oct & Dec), and Gelligaer Common (Oct); PEMBROKE: One pair bred on Skomer and two pairs on Ramsey (c.f. four in 2014). One at St. David's on 27th Jan; BRECON: Continues to decline, and is now hard to find. A regular nest site near Bronllys provided sightings of one adult in Jan and July, and a pair there in April and June, but no confirmation of successful breeding. Presence of one at Llanwrthwl in March was not fully confirmed. One adult at Gludy in July, and feathers/pellets later found to confirm regular occupation of ancient oaks. Birds heard close to Cradoc village in Sept - Oct so a breeding pair probably still exists in the area; MONTGOMERY: Resident at Dolydd Hafren from Feb-Nov but otherwise just 2 other locations reported, with a bird at Churchstoke w/e 30th Aug and one heard near Staylittle on 11th Feb; CAERNARFON: Singles at Rhiw on 17th Jan and near Mynytho on 9th Feb. In the breeding season, one on a BBS square at Llanaelhaearn on 7th June and one at the regular site of Cadlan Isaf, Aberdaron, on 20th June. Five territories on Bardsey, two more than last year and the highest since 1994. The only record away from Llŷn was one calling at Hendre Road, Gyffin, on 16th Jan; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn a pair probably attempted to breed, and one was also seen regularly at another site here but no evidence of breeding there. Birds were regularly heard calling around a farm to the west of Mynydd Bodafon. Two were seen at a farm in Llanfaelog all summer and birds were also seen at South Stack through the summer. 4 regularly at Holyhead Breakwater C.P. throughout. 2-3 birds were calling on Parys Mountain on 17th March, and singles were recorded at Rhoscolyn on 4th and 23rd-29th May and 11th July, at Dothan on 14th Feb and at Aberffraw on 26th May; DENBIGH: Seems to be continuing its steady decline. 2 seen near Rossett on 1st Jan and 14th Feb, 6 records of singles May - Aug, with the first on 18th May near Holt and the last on 30th Aug also near Holt; FLINT: Presence was recorded near Gwespyr on 21st June and a single was S of St Asaph on 8th Aug.

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco*

TYLLUAN FRECH

(C) A common and widespread breeding resident in areas of woodland in all counties but possibly declining. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	391
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	207

Breeding records and significant counts were: GWENT: More records than in any recent

year. Confirmed breeding at Hafod Farm, near Brynmawr; at Bargoed Woodland Park and at St Arvans. Four chicks fledged from a nest near Carno Res and in the Llanhilleth area, three nests were found and three chicks fledged from each; E. GLAMORGAN: Reported at 62 locations, but just one confirmed breeding report, at Caerlan Farm, Penrhiwfer. An imm at Bargoed on 6th Aug, with pairs heard calling at night at Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr, on 27th May, and Foel Fawr nr Cymmer on 19th June, and possible breeding at Shwt; GOWER: Bred at Cwm Nant y Fedw and near. Seven Sisters, present at another 26 sites; BRECON: Widespread and increasing. Territorial males heard at many locations in Feb - April, with indications of a good breeding season. A pair at a nest-hole at Gilestone Farm (Llansantffraed), an adult flew from a Cwm Claisfer nest-box in May, and branching owlets at Pennorth and Cathedine. Later in spring, wheezing juveniles at three locations within Talybont Forest, Cui Parc (Talybont), Pencelli, Ty Mawr Wood (Llangasty), Island Fields (Brecon) and Ysgwydd Hwch (Llaneglwys); MONTGOMERY: 2015 was a good year. At RSPB Lake Vyrnwy in a 'normal' year just a few nests are found in the large nest boxes there, but in 2015 a total of 11 nest attempts which successfully fledged at least 18 young. The MWT Garden Bird Survey also noted record numbers with presence recorded in 80% of winter 2014-15 gardens and 83% of summer gardens; MEIRIONNYDD: Bred at Trawscoed, Llanuwchllyn and recorded in the breeding season at another 12 sites; CAERNARFON: A recently-fledged owlet was above Dolgarrog on the very early date of 28th April. Single birds or pairs were recorded from another 24 sites, but the only record of more than two birds were 3 males at Penycerau near Llanfaelrhys on 5th Nov; DENBIGH: 3 nestlings ringed at each of two boxes in Clocaenog Forest on 12th May, 4 heard calling simultaneously from different places at Pentrefelin in the Conwy Valley on 4th June and 6 at Pendre, near Llangollen on 12th Dec; FLINT: 4 at Rhydymwyn on 27th Nov.

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
DENBIGH	3	11	8	8	2.67

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus*

TYLLUAN GORNIOG

(B) *A scarce resident in some counties. Also a scarce winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	12
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	9

GWENT: 8 pairs on territory in the north of the county. Successful breeding was confirmed in two cases, with one pair raising two chicks and another, six. Away from the known breeding areas, one at St Brides Wentlooge on 13th Dec; CEREDIGION: One was reported from Penglais woods on 3rd March and two juveniles were heard near Cwmystwyth on 24th July; CAERNARFON: There were three records of singles on Bardsey, on 6th April, 5th June and 5th Nov; ANGLESEY: One reported near Dwyran on 8th - 9th Nov; FLINT: One at Shotwick Fields on 14th and 18th Feb and 6th March.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

TYLLUAN GLUSTIOG

(C) Scarce breeding resident. Winter visitor and passage migrant in small numbers to all counties. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	220
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	107

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: PEMBROKE: Two breeding pairs on Skomer, one of which fledged three young; MEIRIONNYDD: A pair in an area of moorland near Bala area attempted to breed but failed as not seen after 29th April. A bird seen twice at another nearby site was a possible breeder.

Outside the breeding season, there was an influx into Wales in late Oct and early Nov: GWENT: In the first half of the year, birds were recorded at several sites in Jan - March, with a late bird at Mynydd Llangatwg on 7th May. Most records were of 1-2 birds but 3 on the coastal belt west of the Usk on 2nd Jan and 3 in the Peterstone Wentlooge / Peterstone Great Wharf area on 8th March. In autumn, recorded from 13th Sept, max 3 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 18th Oct and 4 here on 28th-29th Oct, 7 at Sluice Farm and Peterstone Great Wharf on 16th Nov and 5 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 13th Dec; E. GLAMORGAN: Reports Jan – March at Rumney Great Wharf, max 3, with two still there on 1st May. There was one at Hirwaun Common on 25th Feb. In the second winter period, one on Flat Holm on 3rd Oct. Rumney Great Wharf was again the main site with regular reports of max 4 birds from 28th Oct to 28th Dec. Elsewhere, 1-2 at Kenfig NNR, Lavernock Pt, Dunraven, Mynydd Eglwysilan, nr Gileston, Rhaslas Pond, Garwnant, Craig-yr-Aber/Cwm Cynffig and Lamby Way landfill; GOWER: Birds at Llanrhidian marsh from 29th Sept. to year's end, max 8 there on 7th and 11th Nov. 3 at Broughton Burrows on 6th Nov and 1-2 at Pennard Burrows, Crymlyn Burrows, Baglan Burrows, Hirfynydd/Resolven, Llangenith Moors and Mynydd Margam; CARMARTHEN: Two at Pembrey Burrows in early Nov and one at Ginst Point on 7th Nov with 2 there on 21st; PEMBROKE: Mainland records, two at Castlemartin Corse on 1st Feb and Martins Haven on 25th April, one at Marloes Mere on 2nd April. In the second winter period singles at Marloes Mere, Slebech, Dale Air Field, Cwm yr Eglwys, St David's Head, Martins Haven, Strumble Head and Puncteston Common. Present on Skokholm throughout the year. On Ramsey 1-2 on four dates in November plus a single on 16th Dec; CEREDIGION: One at Cors Fochno on 4th Jan, two at Cors Caron on 18th and 20th Jan, one at Pen Dinas, Aberystwyth on 22nd March, one near Llyn Eiddwen on 25th Oct, one at Llanrhystud on 26th Oct, one at RSPB Ynys-hir on 9th - 10th Dec and one at Cors Caron on 13th Dec; BRECON: A dark individual, probably this species, hunted grasslands at Coed y Rhaiadr at dusk on 17th Jan. Three hunted over *Molinia* at Tor Glas (Neuadd Reservoirs) on 5th Feb, with singles there on 6th and 11th. Evidence of occupation in the Black Mtns in mid-April with feathers about a recent plucked carcass on Daren Llwyd, cause of death unknown. In autumn, singles at Garnlydan, Mynydd Bwlch-y-groes, above The Cwm (Llanwrthwl) and on Mynydd Illtyd. In winter, one flew over Talybont Res on 21st Nov, and the first sighting of what were to be overwintering birds by the A4059 at Cefn Esgair-carnau was a single on 23rd Dec; RADNOR: Up to five in the Elan Valley in Oct and Nov; MONTGOMERY: More sightings than in recent years from: Glaslyn (17th Feb), Llyn Hir area (2 on 11th March), Lake Vyrnwy (2nd & 16th April), an adult SW of Llangurig (15th July)

and up to 2 wintering birds on the Dyfi Estuary 8th-27th Dec; MEIRIONNYDD: The roost at Y Gyfng/Pont Tai Hirion area on Migneint continued into 2015 with 1-2 birds until 10th Feb. Two seen 2km E of here at dawn of 11th Jan at Pont yr Afon Gam may have been birds from another roost. There was one at Sirior on 19th Feb. In the second winter period, singles at Sirior, Milltir Cerrig and Morfa Harlech; CAERNARFON: In the first winter period, several records of singles on the Great Orme up to 12th May. In the Carneddau, singles in March-April near Bwlch-y-ddeufaen, at Dwygyfylchi and on Tal y Fan . Elsewhere one on Bardsey on 10th April. One on Bardsey in Aug, then an influx from mid-Oct to early Nov, starting with at least 14 here on 15th Oct, then 1-3 birds until the 30th, followed by an arrival of at least 19 on 31st Oct, the second-highest count for the island. On the mainland, 1-2 birds in Oct/Nov at the Great and Little Ormes, Uwchmynydd, Hell's Mouth and Penmaenmawr; ANGLESEY: In the first winter period, singles at Llyn Coron, Cemlyn and Llyn Dinam, with one on Mynydd Eilian on 4th June. In the second winter period, 3 at South Stack on 18th-19th Oct and 1-2 at the Alaw est, Hen Borth, Malltraeth, Valley Wetlands, Soldier's Point, Traeth Lligwy, Newborough Warren and Cors Bodeilio; DENBIGH: The first record was presence at RSPB Conwy on 11th April then a single at Esclusham Mountain on 20th June. There were four records in July, the last of which was 2 near Moel Famau on 30th, and 5 records in Nov including one on 3rd- 4th and 6th at Towyn; FLINT: One near Gronant on 27th June, with 2 there on 26th July and one on 29th Oct, with one over White Sands on 29th Dec.

NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

TROELLWR MAWR

(C) *Widespread but scarce summer visitor, now mainly dependent on clearfell areas in forestry plantations. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	62
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	39

Nightjars are probably under-recorded, as birdwatchers tend to visit a small number of traditional sites to look for them; birds are probably missed elsewhere. Until there is a new national survey, population trends are not accurately known. Records were received as follows: GWENT: Only 10 records submitted. The earliest birds were 3 at Broad Meend near Trellech on 23rd May, followed by one at Coed y Llanerch on 24th May. The Trellech heathland restoration areas accounted for over half of the total number of records, with 3 males at Broad Meend and two at Beacon Hill on several dates in May-June. 3 at Cleddon Bog on 25th July may have been the adjacent Broad Meend birds. Elsewhere, one at Blaenavon community woodland on 19th June and 3 in St James Forestry on 16th July. A migrant was at Maindee on 17th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: Recorded at 16 locations. Single birds at Maesteg on 10th May, then at Glyncomel LNR and Llanwonno, on 21st May, and Cwm Glo (W of Merthyr) and Llanwonno on 22nd May. Max 4 at the latter, the main site, in May-June and up to 24th July. Elsewhere, 2+ at Coed Craig Ruperra on 1st June, one churring at Cwm Kenfig on 4th June and 4+ (3 males and a fem) there on 11th June, one at Gwaun Helen on 6th and 8th June, present at Caerau, Maesteg, on 7th and 20th June, one at Darwonno on 12th June, 3 at Coed Taf Fawr, Garwnant, on 15th June and 10th July,

2 at Glyn cornel LNR on 16th and one at Rudry on 18th June, present at Mynydd Bach, Maesteg, on 30th June, 3 at Glyn cornel on 1st July, 2 at Cwm Cynffig on 2nd July, one at Coed Craig Ruperra on 5th July. In July, a total of 16 pairs were reported throughout various clearfell areas in the Llynfi Valley. The last report was 2 at Coed Taf Fawr, Garwnant, on 10th Aug; GOWER: Single males on Mynydd Dinas on 5th June, at Troed-y-Rhiw on 11th and at Cwm Cregan on 13th June, 2 males on Foel Fawr on 19th, 3 at Foel Fawr/Caerau on 22nd and a male on Mynydd Nant y Bar on 26th June. Two at Craig Yr Aber & Cwm Cynfig on 2nd July, a male at Mynydd Bach, 2 males on Mynydd Margam and a male at Nant y Boda all on 4th, 2 males at Creunant on 4th July, a male and a female on Mynydd Emroch on 10th, 2 males on Mynydd Dinas on 11th, a male at Mynydd Bach and a male at Nant y Boda on 17th, a male at Cwm Cregan/Moel y Gwynt on 18th and lastly a male on Cwm Maelog on 25th July. A few new territories after widespread tree-felling; CARMARTHEN: One churring at Glynsaer, Crychan Forest on 15th June; CEREDIGION: 8 'churring' males reported in the county: 4 at Cross Inn forest, and singles churring at Clywedog plantation, Cors Fochno, Llyn Pendam and at Foel Fawr, part of RSPB Ynys-hir reserve. A female at Cwmystwyth on 31st July; BRECON: The first was at Castle Drake (Glasfynydd) on 28th May. Three at Coed Taf Fawr (N) near Nant-ddu on 15th June and 10th July, with 2 still present on 10th Aug. On 30th June, two churring birds at Castle Drake and singles at clearfells on Tarpantau (SO0517) and Glyn Collwn (SO0616). A female at Coity Wood (E) on 8th July and a male at Ysgwydd Hwch (Llaneglwys) on 25th July. One by the confluence of the River Usk and River Cwannon (Llangynidr) on 15th Aug. In the west, one churred at Mynydd Wysg on 18th July, and the last record was of one flushed from bracken at Nant Gyrllais, Ystradgynlais on 10th Sept; MONTGOMERY: Recorded from just 2 locations: west of Llanidloes and Lake Vyrnwy, a reflection of few people looking or reporting, rather than a county shortage of Nightjars; MEIRIONNYDD: A churring male at Gwaith Powdwr on 3rd June and two churring males on the opposite side of the Dwyryd Est from the reserve on 27th June and 1st July. Mapping has shown that none actually bred at Gwaith Powdwr this year but across the Dwyryd; CAERNARFON: The Cors Bodgynydd area of Gwydyr Forest is the most reliable site in the county, and birds were recorded there from 4th June, peaking at 4 birds on 23rd June, when a nest with eggs was found, and 4 again on 26th June. The last record here was one on 8th Aug. Elsewhere, there was one on Bardsey on 5th May and a juvenile struck the Welsh Government building at Llandudno Junction, on 4th Sept; DENBIGH: Moel Famau produced the highest count with 2 on 30th July. One at Llyn Brenig on 27th Aug and one at Bronbannog on 28th Aug. A probable passage single S of Llanddulas on 30th Aug and a juvenile at RSPB Conwy on 4th Sept.

SWIFT *Apus apus*

GWENNOL DDU

(C) A widespread and plentiful summer visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1506
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	592

Although well recorded on passage and in suitable habitat at the right time of year,

breeding records for this largely urban species are on the whole, sparse. If more counties could rival the level of recording in Gwent and Breconshire, the picture would be much more complete and help with the local protection of the species.

Records of breeding or probable breeding were: GWENT: Targeted surveys found at least 15 breeding pairs in Abergavenny and 28 nests in Monmouth. Nests were also found at St Arvans and Pont-newynydd; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at Whitchurch (Cardiff), Bargoed (two locations), and Penygraig. Elsewhere birds in display flight and/or near breeding sites at Cwm y Bwch (Bedwas), Newbridge Fields (Bridgend) and Ely and Fairwater (Cardiff); GOWER: Bred at Briton Ferry, Neath, Giants Grave, Clyne and Central Port Talbot; CEREDIGION: Breeding numbers appeared to be low with none breeding at Aberarth, fewer than five pairs at Talybont and six pairs breeding at Eglwysfach; BRECON: A total of 20 birds in Brecon town and three occupied nests at Middle Gaer Farm (Bwlch), two at Pennorth Chapel, two at Tir Canol (Llangorse), two at Libanus Church and one at Pentwyn Farm (Abergwesyn). Possible new sites were one amongst eaves of Llywel Church and a pair screaming at Aberbran Fawr Farm. 9 over Builth Wells on 1st June, 30 over Llanwrthwl and 20 over Libanus in late June probably involved family parties. Breeding numbers were reduced in Sennybridge and Defynnog, with 10 and 19 respectively in late July probably now the extent of the populations there; RADNOR: Numbers down at all town count sites; MEIRIONNYDD: 5+ nests at Betws Gwerfil Goch, 2 pairs at Corwen on 3rd June and at least one pair in Blaenau Ffestiniog. At least 8 screamers around Rhiwbryfdir during the breeding season. Most records received were small numbers around the older towns and villages where the species can find nest holes, the vast majority in the western coastal area and inland at Dolgellau, Bala and Blaenau Ffestiniog; CAERNARFON: At least two occupied nests at Glasinfryn and one at Llanfairfechan. Confirmed or probable breeding at Dolwyddelan, Bangor, Bethesda and Rachub and Caernarfon and possible at Dolydd and Rhos-on-sea; FLINT: The only report of nesting activity was at Rhydymwyn.

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	6 th April	Goldcliff	5 th Oct	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	14 th April	Cardiff Metropolitan Univ	29 th Oct	Lavernock Pt
GOWER	27 th April	Mynydd Gelli Wastad & Staffal Haegr	31 st Aug	Tycoch & Borrow Pits/Resolven
CARMARTHEN	22 nd April	Penclacwydd	4 th Sept.	Pembrey Harbour
PEMBROKE	18 th April	Skomer	19 th Sept	Brownslade Burrows
CEREDIGION	16 th April	Llanrhystud	7 th Sept	New Quay
BRECON	19 th April	Llangorse Lake	2 nd Sept	Defynnog
RADNOR	30 th April	Llanelwedd	4 th Sept	Llanelwedd
MONTGOMERY	19 th April	Dolydd Hafren	16 th Aug	Dolydd Hafren & Llandidloes
MEIRIONNYDD	20 th April	Pont Croesor	11 th Aug	Penllyn, Tywyn
CAERNARFON	20 th April	Pont Croesor	13 th Sept	Glasinfryn
ANGLESEY	16 th April	South Stack & the Range	14 th Sept	Cemaes
DENBIGH	18 th April	Denbigh	3 rd Sept	Rhuthun
FLINT	15 th April	Rhuddlan	15 th Sept	Bagillt

The two birds at Goldcliff GWENT on 6th April were six days earlier than the previous record here. A very late swift sp. was over Whitchurch, Cardiff, E. GLAMORGAN in the rain on 4th Nov. Unfortunately the observer did not have binoculars to observe it more closely.

Large counts (80+) were: GWENT: 200 feeding over Goldcliff on 8th May. Post-breeding, 100 feeding over reeds at The Moorings on 23rd July. 204 over Peterstone Wentlooge on 25th July and 30-40 birds a minute passed The Moorings on the 27th; E. GLAMORGAN: Llanishen/Lisvane Res had max 80 in May, but the highest counts of the spring were at Cardiff Bay where there were 250 on 7th May, and 150 there on 8th, 9th and 13th, and 400 on 29th, which was the highest count of the year. 300 at Cardiff Bay on 8th July, 100 at Lisvane Res on 11th July and 200 there on 16th July, 100 at Rhoose Pt on 9th Aug; GOWER: 80 at Staffal Haegr/ Llanrhidian on 12th May, 90 there on 15th May and 225 at Wernffrwd on 13th July; PEMBROKE: 230 south past Ramsey on 30th June and 103 there on 3rd July; MONTGOMERY: 100+ over Welshpool on 7th Aug; CAERNARFON: Bardsey recorded 263 moving south on 30th June, the largest count here since 2001, and there were 150 at Morfa Aber on 4th July; ANGLESEY: 100 over Malltraeth Marsh RSPB on 4th May; DENBIGH: Pentrefelin, Conwy Valley held the highest count with 120 flying N on the evening of 11th May, with over 100 near Towyn on 2nd Aug; FLINT: Max count 200.

ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba*

GWENNOL DDU YR ALPAU

(A) *Rare vagrant, on WRP list.*

One at the Little Orme CAERNARFON on 5th - 7th Oct was the seventh record for the county and the first for Wales since 2009.

HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

COPOG

(A) *An uncommon but regular passage migrant to Wales.*

No of BirdTrack records	25
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	12

E. GLAMORGAN: There was one at Rhoose Pt on 20th April; PEMBROKE: Two on Skomer on 9th April, with one remaining until 11th, then a single at Marloes Mere on 14th April with two here the next day. One in a garden near Castlemartin on 10th April and another near Freystrop on 9th July; CEREDIGION: One was at Tregaron from 12th to 15th April and one at Felinwynt on 18th April; RADNOR: One in the Elan Valley on 4th June; CAERNARFON: Singles on Bardsey on 13th and 15th April, In autumn, one at the car park below Yr Eifl in Aug and one near the caravan site at Penrhos on 11th Oct; ANGLESEY: One at The Range, Holyhead on 14th - 17th April; DENBIGH: A single was photographed on a back lawn at Eglwys Cross, near Whitchurch on 26th April.

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

GWYBEDOG Y GWENYN

(A) *Scarce passage migrant, on WRP list.*

ANGLESEY: Two over Mariandrys on 26th June; FLINT: One was seen flying over Shotton Steelworks, calling, on 20th Aug.

KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

GLAS Y DORLAN

(C) *Resident in lowland areas. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	965
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	273

GWENT: Most records from the coast and during the period July – Nov. Breeding took place on the Usk (two nests with chicks), on the Ebbw (a nest was monitored to 5th June, but failed) and on the Trothy, where a nest with chicks was found; E. GLAMORGAN: The only breeding reports came from Ogmere Est and Pont-y-Gwaith LNR where juvs were observed during the summer. There were reports of birds in suitable habitat at another 19 sites from May to the end of Aug. Many records across the recording area outside the breeding season, max 3 birds; GOWER: Singles reported from 39 localities, with 2 at R. Tawe/Clydach on 13th April and 2 at R. Afan/Port Talbot Town Centre on 9th Sept; CARMARTHEN: A pair fledged 2 young at Penclacwydd and there were breeding season records from Cilsan Bridge, Dryslwyn and Abergwili. There were regular records, outside of the breeding season, from Kidwelly Quay, Pembrey Harbour, Burry Port Harbour, Cefn Padrig, Pwll and Sandy W.P.; PEMBROKE: Recorded from many suitable locations in the county and proved to have bred at Minwear. One on Skokholm on 17th Aug was the first for ten years, while there were at least two on Skomer from 12th Oct to 8th Nov (7th & 8th island records) and one on Ramsey on 12th Sept; CEREDIGION: The only breeding season record came from the Rheidiol valley in June. Seen more widely in autumn/winter on the larger rivers (Teifi, Dyfi etc) with occasional records from the coast; BRECON: Four breeding pairs on the Usk between Island Fields (Brecon) and Llanhamlach, and single pairs at Scethrog and Glangrwyney. Pairs were on the Llynfi and Wye near Talgarth and at The Warren (Hay), and a single on the Elan below Dolafallen bridge. Other breeding season records were one on the River Dulas in Llanwrthwl village on 3rd May and one on the River Mellte near Carncrochan Farm (Ystradfellte) on 30th May; MONTGOMERY: The largest number of records were in Sept and Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: Confirmed breeding on Afon Dyfrdwy at Corwen with a nest seen on 29th June, but outcome unknown, also probable breeding at Glyndyfrdwy. Sightings suggest two pairs on Afon Dwyrdd and another on the western side of the Glaslyn/Dwyrdd estuary complex, with a probable pair on the Mawddach and records also on Afon Wnion; CAERNARFON: Confirmed breeding on Afon Rhythallt below Llyn Padarn, and one present on Afon Glaslyn at Pont Croesor on 20th and 23rd April. Outside the breeding season, 1-2 birds at a total of 18 sites, on the coast and on a number of rivers and lakes, including several sites along Afon Glaslyn. Bardsey recorded singles on 9th July, 9th Oct and 15th Oct, the 19th to 21st records for the island; ANGLESEY: The only breeding season records were on Afon Cefni at Malltraeth, where birds were seen on 4th April and 10th and 19th June. Outside the breeding season, 1-

2 birds recorded at another 10 sites; DENBIGH: Recorded in 20 1km squares, including many records in the breeding season. The max count was 2 at Rhuthun on 10th June; FLINT: Recorded in 24 1km squares, with most records from Connah's Quay NR which had the max count of 3 on 13th Feb.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

PENGAM

(A) *An uncommon but regular passage migrant, chiefly to coastal counties in autumn.*

No of BirdTrack records	28
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	12

GWENT: One near Chepstow railway station on 3rd Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Bridgend on 12th and 14th Sept; GOWER: One at Penmaen/CefnBryn on 2nd Oct; CARMARTHEN: One flushed from bracken at Cynnant on 17th Sept, the first since 2011; PEMBROKE: In spring, two on Skokholm on 7th April and a single on 15th April, two on Skomer on 9th April with one remaining until 15th and one on 13th June. There was one on Ramsey on 23rd April. The only mainland record came from Gilat Point on 7th April. In autumn, singles in Sept at Penally on 9th, Skomer 9th-10th, Erwlun on 13th and Ramsey on 17th-18th; RADNOR: One at Franksbridge on 2nd May; CAERNARFON: The only records were on Bardsey, where singles were recorded on 7th April and 14th Sept.

GREEN WOODPECKER *Picus viridis*

CNOCELL WERDD

(C) *Once a common breeding resident throughout lowland Wales except on Anglesey. It now appears to be doing well in some eastern and southern counties but declining in most western counties, and Montgomery and Radnor. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	1116
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	343

GWENT: Widely reported, with counts of up to 6. Recently fledged juveniles at Llangybi and Obsbaston in June and at Brynmawr and Cleppa Park in July. An adult and a young bird at Osbaston on 24th July and two juveniles at Goldcliff on 15th Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at 8 sites, with reports from many other sites during the breeding season. Outside the breeding season, many reports, mainly 1-2 birds, from many sites across the recording area, with a southerly bias; GOWER: Bred at Betty Church Woods/Cwm Ivy, Briton Ferry Woods and Shelone Woods/Briton Ferry, probably bred at 3 more sites and present in the breeding season at another 7 sites. 1- 2 birds at another 48 localities, with 3 at Margam Park on 1st May, 3 at Oxwich Marsh on 1st Sept and 3 at Margam Railway Sidings on 23rd Sept; CARMARTHEN: Recorded at 20 sites; PEMBROKE: One at Lydstep Haven on 24th April and one at Tycanol on 1st Oct which was reported to have been there for a fortnight; CEREDIGION: A poor year with only 11 records from 9 localities (27 records from 9 localities in 2014). All records were of singles apart from two near Felinfach on 21st April; BRECON: Seen or heard at 56 sites throughout the

year. A pair nest-building in Llwyn-y-celyn Wood, Libanus on 12th April and family parties from late June at Glasgwm Isaf (Dyffryn Crawnnon), Lower Neuadd Reservoir, Mynydd Illtyd, Danygraig Isaf (Heol Senni), BWT Cae Ongyr, Llawr Dolau (Epynt) and Llanwrthwl village. One fell prey to a Peregrine near Upper Chapel in the Honddu valley above Brecon; MONTGOMERY: 33% fewer records in 2015 compared to 2014 but the distribution is the same as in previous years, concentrated in the north-east part of the county with a couple of records also coming from Llyn Clywedog; MEIRIONNYDD: Birds reported at 12 sites; CAERNARFON: Confirmed breeding records from Llŷn were recently fledged young NE of Criccieth on 17th July and a juvenile at Cefn Engan, Llangybi on 20th July. In the area around Bethesda, an adult with three fledged young were at Moel Faban on 5th July. Birds were recorded at another 26 sites, including three records from western Arfon, where the bird is scarce; DENBIGH: Recorded in 29 1km squares, max count 3 at Llanarmon-yn-Ial on 10th April during a BBS count. The only breeding report was a fledged youngster seen at Llanddulas on 6th Sept; FLINT: Recorded in 15 1km squares. There were three counts of 2: at Bodfari on 3rd March, Hope on 20th April and Rhydymwyn on 31st July.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos major* CNOCELL FRAITH FWYAF
(C) A common breeding resident in wooded parts of Wales but scarcer on Anglesey and the Llŷn peninsula. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2857
% of BirdTrack lists	16
No of 1km squares	916

BBS results show a 171% increase in Wales between 1995 and 2014, the highest increase for any species. Records included: MONTGOMERY: New record highs were received from the MWT Garden Bird Survey with 94% of summer, and 96% of winter gardens recording the species; CAERNARFON: Bardsey recorded birds from mid-June to early November, peaking at 5 on 29th Sept, the second-highest count ever for the island; ANGLESEY: An unprecedented prolonged autumn passage over Holy Island in late summer and autumn between 27th June and 26th Nov, max 3 at South Stack on 7th Aug.

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos minor* CNOCELL FRAITH LEIAF
(B) A scarce and local breeding resident in all counties, principally distributed in the lowlands and along the main river valleys. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	35
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	25

An apparent increase in some counties, but this is an elusive species and may have been missed in some areas previously. GWENT: 7 individual birds were seen or heard at 5 locations, spread across the county, compared to just one last year. In Feb there were sightings by the Usk at a traditional site near The Bryn. In April calls were heard at Priory Wood and one was seen in Cwmbran, while, in June, there was one near Newbridge and

another seen in flight at the St. Mellons Business Park: E. GLAMORGAN: One at Blackweir, Cardiff, on 18th Jan, 3 at Ty Mel, Lletty Brongu, on 1st Feb, one at Cwm Nant Gwyn, Maesteg, on 25th Feb, one at Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr, on 3rd April, one at Cwm Cadlan LNR on 18th April, one at St. Mellon's Business Park on 2nd June and one at Pant-yr-Awel on 28th Oct. This species is now uncommon in East Glamorgan, however this series of records is encouraging; GOWER: Singles at Penllergaer on 20th Jan. and 10th Feb; CARMARTHEN: A pair bred at Halfway and another pair was in suitable habitat at Cyngordy, throughout the spring. Elsewhere just 2 records of this declining species with single birds at Dinefwr Park on 4th April and Cen Coed Lane, Cwmbach on 30th Sept.; CEREDIGION: Two pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir with most activity in March and April. The only other records were of one near Pentre Jane Morgan campus, Aberystwyth on 11th Jan and one at Penglais woods, Aberystwyth on 4th Feb; BRECON: A male by the canal towpath near Pencelli on 2nd March, with possibly the same calling near Brynich on two dates in mid-March. A female at Glasbury on 30th March and one at Cathedine on 13th Dec; MONTGOMERY: Two April records, one from Dolydd Hafren on 15th and the other from Breidden Hill on 20th. A bird visiting feeders on the Upper Dyfi Estuary on 22nd Oct was driven off by a Great Spotted Woodpecker; MEIRIONNYDD: One at Glyndyfrdwy on 15th Feb; CAERNARFON: After several years with no record of this species, a surprising number this year. A female was near the outflow of Llyn Padarn on 12th June. There were also records from Llŷn for the first time in many years. Singles were reported east of Pwllheli near Nant Stigallt on 23rd Feb and 2nd March and one near Plas yn Rhiw on 3rd Oct; FLINT: One was recorded near Dobshill on 14th Feb and presence was recorded near Gwernaffield on 4th May.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

CUDYLL COCH

(C) Rather scarce breeding resident throughout Wales. Partial and passage migrant in small numbers to some counties. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1761
% of BirdTrack lists	8
No of 1km squares	763

Incomplete breeding information includes: GWENT: Bred at 3 sites with pairs present at another 3. A large increase in the number of records; E. GLAMORGAN: Bred at 4 sites; GOWER: Bred at 2 sites and present at a further 21 sites; CARMARTHEN: Bred at one site and present in the breeding season at two others; PEMBROKE: Reported from 13+ sites during the breeding season; CEREDIGION: Breeding was confirmed at seven inland sites; BRECON: Bred at three sites and birds present at three more; MONTGOMERY: Two confirmed breeding pairs; MEIRIONNYDD: Probably bred at 9 sites and possibly at a further 9 others; CAERNARFON: Confirmed breeding at two sites, with individuals present at 29 other sites; ANGLESEY: One breeding record; DENBIGH: Three records of probable breeding; FLINT: One confirmed breeding record, plus one other probable breeding pair.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

CUDYLL BACH

(B) Scarce breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	213
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	138

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: A bird at Carno Res on 1st June; CARMARTHEN: A family group on Mynydd Du on 30th Sept; BRECON: One successful pair and a male present at another site; MONTGOMERY: One pair present at Lake Vyrnwy but failed to breed. In the south of the county a pair is likely to have hatched eggs but outcome is not known; MEIRIONNYDD: A total of 13 pairs attempted to breed but none were successful.

A summary of non-breeding records:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT	2+	2+	1+	1+	1	1			1	1	2+	1+
E. GLAMORGAN	2	2	2	1		2			2	8	6	1
GOWER	4	8	6						1	4	5	2
CARMARTHEN	4								8			
PEMBROKE	4	9	7+	11+				1	6	10+	8+	12
CEREDIGION	4	3	2					1	1	2		2
BRECON	1	2							13 reports			
MONTGOMERY		1	1	1					4+			
MEIRIONNYDD					2					3		
CAERNARFON		1	4+	7+					6+	8+	2+	4+
ANGLESEY	1	2	3	2	2		1			3	2	3
DENBIGH		1	1	1	1			1				1
FLINT	2	1	1					1	1	2	1	1

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

HEBOG YR EHEDYDD

(B) Rare breeding summer visitor in at least four counties with a total breeding population of approximately 30 pairs. Elsewhere a rare passage migrant, although a few summer on occasion. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	106
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	76

Breeding information as follows: GWENT: Reported from Newport Wetlands, Peterstone Wentloog, Usk Valley and Western Valleys. Four nests located, one near Llangybi and three between Abergavenny and Raglan; E. GLAMORGAN: Singles reported at 5 sites but no confirmed breeding reported; GOWER: Present at three suitable sites; CARMARTHEN: One pair at Cyngordy throughout the summer plus four other records, although no confirmed breeding records; BRECON: Records suggested breeding at 7 locations, half that of the previous year; MONTGOMERY: Aggressive adults plus at least one juv

recorded at one site; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding thought likely in the east of the county.

Approximate monthly totals of non-breeding birds:

	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>
GWENT	1	5+	1+		5	2+	2	
E. GLAMORGAN		5			3	10	2+	
GOWER		1			1			
PEMBROKE		2	3	1	2	3		
CEREDIGION			1	3	3	4		
BRECON		1+		1		1		
MONTGOMERY	1						1	
MEIRIONNYDD				1	1	1		
CAERNARFON			2			3		
ANGLESEY		3	2		1		2	
DENBIGH	1	1	1	1	1	1		
FLINT		1	1	1	1	2		

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

HEBOG TRAMOR

(C) Resident breeding species in all counties, increasing in recent years to a breeding population of more than 300 pairs. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1037
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	478

Breeding information as follows (not complete surveys): GWENT: Two breeding pairs, two young fledged from one site, a fledgling was seen at the other on 23rd May but a female was found dead next to a poisoned pigeon on 27th June; E. GLAMORGAN: Two breeding records, including the pair on Cardiff City Hall; GOWER: Present at 13 sites during the breeding season; CARMARTHEN: SW Peregrine Monitoring Group checked 11 territories, 9 of which were occupied with breeding confirmed at five sites, with a total of 6 chicks known to have fledged; PEMBROKE: 39 occupied territories, of which at least 27 attempted to breed, fledging a minimum of 28 young; CEREDIGION: A few breeding pairs recorded; BRECON: 16 sites checked by SWPMG, of which 12 occupied, 10 by pairs and two by single males. At least 11 chicks fledged successfully from 7 of these pairs, but for what now appears to be the second year in succession, one pair suffered theft of young chicks from the nest at 5-8 days old. At one of the successful (two chicks reared) quarry locations, an adult male had been found dead on 8th Feb, probably by natural causes; MONTGOMERY: The pair at Lake Vyrnwy were thought to have fledged one chick; MEIRIONNYDD: Confirmed or probable breeding pair records were received from 8 sites; CAERNARFON: Two pairs bred on Bardsey, although only one was successful, fledging two young; DENBIGH: One record of probable breeding; FLINT: Two pairs bred.

RING-NECKED PARAKEET *Psittacula krameri*

PARACIT TORCHOG

(A) *Feral population now well-established in parts of southern England and spreading northwards, but not yet established in Wales.*

No of BirdTrack records	20
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	6

GWENT: One in Marshfield on 9th April and one over Uskmouth on 28th Sept. Interestingly, one was in the Severn beach area, just over the Second Severn crossing, during Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: One on a garden feeder in Ty Draw Rd, Cardiff, on 30th May and one at Llantrisant Common on 25th Oct.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

EURYN

(A) *A scarce summer visitor, recorded in all counties and particularly in Pembroke. Most of the records fall in May and June as is to be expected with a species overshooting its continental breeding areas. On WRP list.*

The only records were on Skomer PEMBROKE, where there were four, possibly five, birds on 11th & 12th May, with one remaining until 13th.

2014: CAERNARFON: In addition to the immature male listed last year on Bardsey on 1st June, there was also an adult male there on that date

GREAT GREY SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor*

CIGYDD MAWR

(A) *A scarce but annual winter visitor, occasionally recorded on passage.*

No of BirdTrack records	174
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	70

GWENT: In the first winter period, a bird at Twmbarlwm was present for its third winter, and there was one in the Blaenserchan valley on 21st-22nd March. In autumn, one on Brynithel moorland on 26th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Garwnant on 16th and 22nd Jan, and 4th Feb was presumably the bird from late 2014. Another was at Bwlch-y-Lladron, Hirwaun Common, on 14th-16th and 22nd March. In the second winter period, one at Rumney Great Wharf on 28th Oct was the first in Cardiff UA since 1981; GOWER: One ranging between Ilston and Pengwern Common from 4th Jan to 27th Feb and in the second winter period presumably just the one bird moving between Afan Forest Park, Bryn, Craig Yr Aber and Cwm Cynfig, Mynydd Margam from 11th Nov to 3rd Dec and at Mynydd Penhydd on 13th Dec; CARMARTHEN: An overwintering bird at Brechfa Forest from 21st Jan. to 15th March and one at Cyngordy on 18th Nov; PEMBROKE: One at the Gann on 17th Oct; CEREDIGION: One was at Bryn Moel, Llanddewi Brefi, on 8th Feb and again on 7th April.. At Cross Inn forest, seen from 8th Feb to 8th April, with two on 4th April, and one here on 2nd Nov. There was one along the Clettwr on 31st Oct; BRECON: 14 reports of

singles from both traditional and new wintering locations. In the first winter period to early March, one ranged across Glasfynydd Forest near Pont ar Wysg and on the N shore of Usk Res (Carmarthenshire). Another was seen over an even larger but more linear winter territory in Talybont Forest between Lower Neuadd Res (21st Jan), Talybont Res (24th Jan) and Tarpantau (27th Feb). Then followed what are assumed to have been temporary stays by migrants. One at Pentrenewbury, Llandefalle Hill between 24th March and 4th April and one was at Penrhos (Llanwrthwl) on 5th-6th April with possibly another bird near Dolafallen bridge (Elan) also on 5th April. In the second winter, one returned to Glasfynydd Forest (S) on 2nd Dec, one was in the Gwaun Hepste area (Ystradfellte) on 8th Dec and probably the same bird as last April was back in the Dolifor/Dolafallen area of the Elan valley on 13th Dec; MONTGOMERY: As in recent years, the only reports came from the Dyfnant/Lake Vyrnwy area. Sightings were reported at Lake Vyrnwy on 6th Jan and 2nd April and from the Dyfnant Forest on 8th Feb and 12th March; MEIRIONNYDD: One south of Brynhyfryd, Clocaenog Forest on 15th Feb, one in Cynwyd Forest on 17th Feb and one near the Gelli Grin track, Penllyn Forest, on 12th March. The only autumn/second winter period record was one at Penaran on 28th Oct; CAERNARFON: One was near Llyn Du in Cwmystadrlllyn from 8th Oct to 16th Nov; DENBIGH: A single at Eclusham Mountain, Ruabon Mountain on 5th Feb. 2 were at World's End on 10th and 22nd March, with singles in the area recorded from 17th Feb to the last spring sighting on 9th April. In autumn a single at Fenn's Moss on most days between 17th and 25th Oct. The last record of the year was at the traditional Craig Bron Bannog site in Clocaenog Forest on 19th Nov.

WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator*

CIGYDD PENGGOCH

(A) Scarce passage migrant, on WRP list.

PEMBROKE: Three records of males: on Ramsey on 15th-22nd April, at St David's Head on 16th-20th April and near Aberforest on 16th April.

CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

BRAN GOESGOCH

(C) A resident in small numbers, mainly on cliff coasts of the western seaboard. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	965
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	287

Breeding records were: E. GLAMORGAN: The pair on the Heritage Coast were seen on several occasions with five juvs. The highest count of 11 on 3rd April was the highest count for the recording area. Outside the normal area, up to 3 birds as far west as Porthcawl and Rest Bay on 18th Nov; GOWER: Bred E. of Jackie's Tor, Butterslade and Bacon Hole (2 pairs). Small numbers reported most months from a further 22 locations around S. Gower. Max 14 at Rhossili Down and 16 at Rhossili Vile on 6th Sept and 16 at Rhossili on 11th Sept; PEMBROKE: 74 pairs occupying territories was the highest yet recorded in the

county. Overall breeding success was slightly better than in 2014 but average productivity per confirmed occupied territory/nest-site and per successful breeding pair was slightly down compared with 2014.

Pembroke Chough breeding summary (2014 figures in parentheses)

Pairs occupying territories	Pairs attempting to breed	Nests thought to have eggs	Nests thought to have young	Nests from which young fledged	Min. no. of young fledged per site
74 (67)	65 (61)	55 (51)	49 (46)	44 (40)	118 (113)
Mean no. young fledged per confirmed successful nest/pair				2.68 (2.83)	
Mean no. young fledged per confirmed territory-holding pair				1.59 (1.69)	

Breeding details for other vice-counties by the Cross & Stratford Welsh Chough Project:

	ANGLE	CAERN	DENBIGH	MEIRION	MONTM	CERED
Total Nests	37 - 42	91 - 97	2	16	0	21 - 30
Total Broods ringed	18	41	1	3	0	10
Total Young ringed	57	114	3	9	0	32
Mean no Young/brood ringed	3.2	2.8*	3.0	3.0	N/A	3.2
	*Mean brood sizes calculated from full brood size where incomplete brood ringed. Number of Nests: Range (Min = Confirmed + Probable) - (Max = Conf, Prob + Possible).					

Records outside the breeding season were: PEMBROKE: Between 65 and 76 non-breeding birds estimated to be present in the population during the spring. Checks were made of 16 potential post-breeding season communal roost sites between 24th Aug and 6th Sept. Ten of these (including the islands of Ramsey, Skomer and Skokholm) held roosting birds. A minimum total of 104-106 birds was recorded, fewer than that recorded during a similar survey in 2014 (133). Roost counts ranged in size from 1 to 35 birds; CEREDIGION: 20 at Clarach on 25th March with 22 there on 31st May, 24 at Ynys Lochdyn on 31st Aug; CAERNARFON: The largest counts were at roosts in late summer and autumn. These included a peak of 57 – 65 at Penmaenmawr on 29th Aug, up to 40 near Aberdaron on 17th Aug and 4th Oct, 37 near Rhiw on 31st Aug, 36 at the Little Orme on 12th Oct, 28 – 32 near Trefor on 16th Sept and 28 – 30 in the Nantlle Valley on 17th Aug. There were 35 at Morfa Nefyn on 22nd Oct, max 30 at Mynydd Mawr, Uwchmynydd, in Sept and Bardsey recorded maxima of 30 in May, 32 in Oct and 35 in Dec: ANGLESEY: 21 at South Stack on 4th March and 23 here on 27th May, 23 were on Carmel Head on 6th June; DENBIGH: Max 13 at RSPB Conwy on 9th Feb.

MAGPIE *Pica pica*

PIODEN

(C) An abundant and widespread resident; numbers still increasing. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	9182
% of BirdTrack lists	56
No of 1km squares	1640

Breeding figures and counts of 20+ were: GWENT: 20 on Rogiet firing range on 9th Feb and 21 'earth-worming' at Barn Hill, Cefn Fforest on 21st Dec; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at 11 sites, 10 of which were in the southern half of the recording area. In the first winter period, 50 at Whitchurch on 5th Feb, 48 at Forest Farm on 1st Jan, max 40 at Hendre Lake on 23rd Jan, max 35 at Cardiff Bay on 23rd March and max 30 at Cosmeston CP on 23rd Feb. Post breeding, 43 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct, 32 at The Ridings, Tonteg, on 31st Jan, 32 at Kenfig Pool on 19th Oct and 73 at Cosmeston CP on 25th Dec; GOWER: 25 at Llansamlet on 26th Jan, 23 at Swansea Vale on 2nd Feb and 27 at Hardings Down on 21st Feb; CARMARTHEN: 25 at Pembrey Burrows on 23rd Nov; PEMBROKE: 20 at Castlemartin Corse on 8th Jan; MONTGOMERY: 38 at Dolydd Hafren on 15th March with 20 there on 21st June and 2nd Aug; CAERNARFON: 14 pairs bred on Bardsey, up from 9 pairs last year and a new record for the island. Max counts were 33 roosting at Aber Ogwen on 12th Oct and 32 on Bardsey in Nov; ANGLESEY: 24 at Brynteg on 15th Aug; FLINT: 22 recorded around Mold on 8th Feb. 22+ were counted going to an evening roost at Talacre on 11th Oct and a phenomenal 72 at a roost behind Rhyl college on 1st Feb.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

SGRECH Y COED

(D) Widespread resident, common in most deciduous woodland areas, least so in western coastal fringes; scarce in west Llyn and much of Anglesey. Autumn / winter influxes from the east occur irregularly. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2755
% of BirdTrack lists	16
No of 1km squares	863

Counts of 10+ and evidence of movements were: GWENT: 17 in Pontypool Park on 9th Oct; .E. GLAMORGAN: 15 at Forest Farm on 19th March, 14 at Heath Park, Cardiff, on 14th Oct; GOWER: 14 at Upper Cwm Dyffryn on 16th Sept; BRECON: 12 came to a bird table in a Beulah garden during snow on 14th Jan. Dispersal or passage was indicated at The Cwm on 11th Aug when a loose group of 30 flew from woodland onto Carn gafallt; MONTGOMERY: 12 at Dolydd Hafren on 18th Oct; CAERNARFON: Up to 10 birds feeding on acorns in the autumn at Hafod Lane, Bangor; ANGLESEY: South Stack saw the best ever passage with 3 on 26th Sept, 2 on 29th, 1 on Oct 17th, 2 on 19th and 1 on 20th.

JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

JAC-Y-DO

(C) An abundant and widespread resident. Increasing. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	8661
% of BirdTrack lists	52
No of 1km squares	1597

Counts of 300 or more were: GWENT: In the first winter period several large pre-roost gatherings: 2,000 at St Bride's, 1,000 at Brynmawr, 300 at Lliswerry and 2,000 at The Gaer. Numbers built up at Peterstone Gout during the autumn, with a peak count of 350 on 12th Oct. In the second winter period, roost gatherings of 1,000 at Lliswerry and 2,000 at The Gaer; E. GLAMORGAN: 400 at Bargoed and 300 at Cosmeston CP during the breeding season. Outside this period, many counts of 300 or more. 400 over St George's Ave, Bridgend, on 4th Jan, max 400 over Pontypridd and 300 over Nottage on 8th Jan, 800 over Newcastle Hill, Bridgend, on 19th Jan, 400 over Arlington Rd, Porthcawl, on 24th Feb, 350 over Mynydd Eglwysilan on 7th March and max 400 over Bargoed on 24th March. In the second winter period, 362 over Bargoed on 4th Oct with 350 there on 31st Dec, 332 at Kenfig Pool on 13th Oct, max 1,100 over Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr, on 31st Oct, with 1,030 there on 10th Dec and 3,000 over Bridgend Town Centre on 27th Nov; GOWER: Regular pre-roost flocks of 1,000+ in both winter periods over Briton Ferry. Other large pre-roost flocks were 510 at Swansea Vale on 26th Jan, 370 at R. Tawe/Llansamlet on 26th Aug, 475 at Lys Dol and Tircanol on 13th Oct with 434 there on 18th and 400 at Western Avenue Playing Fields/Sandfields on 25th Dec; CARMARTHEN: c.400 roosting at Cross Hands on 21st Dec and c.700 flew NE over Sandy W.P. on 30th Aug; PEMBROKE: Max counts 1,000 at Castlemartin Corse on 1st Feb and at Haverfordwest on 3rd July; CAERNARFON: 300 at Morfa Aber on 11th Aug. The largest counts were at roosts: 400 at Craig-y-don, Llandudno, on 12th Jan and 400 at Coed Rhos-fawr, Pentir, on 11th Aug. On Bardsey, there was the usual influx from late October, with 351 on the 28th and 500+ on 1st Nov; ANGLESEY: 400 were roosting near Tesco in Holyhead on 1st March.

Breeding (DENBIGH/FLINT):

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Various	2	7	7	7	3.50
Pandy	13	32	31	28	2.15

Individuals showing characteristics of the Nordic race *C. m. monedula* were at Sealyham PEMBROKE from January to March, and at Deganwy Golf Course CAERNARFON on 9th Dec. At present the WRP is uncertain whether such records relate to Scandinavian birds or whether these birds are within the normal range of variation in the British population.

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

YDFRAN

(C) A plentiful and widespread resident, breeding mainly below 305m above sea level. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1665
% of BirdTrack lists	9
No of 1km squares	641

Rookeries in GWENT: 16 nests at Bedwas and 25 at Trethomas were the only counts; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at 13 rookeries and probable at another, max 35+ nests at Colwinston and 60 nests at St Brides Major where 200+ birds reported on 9th April; GOWER: 626 nests at 28 active rookeries, compared to 614 nests in 2014, max 72 nests at Lagadranta Farm and 46 nests at Reynoldston satellite; CARMARTHEN: Only 2 rookery counts received, 37 nests at Whitland and 32 at Johnstown.; PEMBROKE: Rookeries recorded at Carew, Scleddau, Broad Haven, Milton, Scolton & St.Nicholas; BRECON: None of the larger rookeries were counted this year. 9 aon at Rhydywernen Weir, 6 aon by the Triffrwd at Tynewydd (Ponde) and 2 aon on Forest Road, Hay-on-Wye; MEIRIONNYDD: 20 nests at Portmeirion gatehouse on 4th April; CAERNARFON: 33 nests at Sarn Mellteyrn on 9th March, 28 nests at Felinheli in early March, 22 nests at Penrhyn Bay on 8th April and 13 nests at Abergwyngregyn on 8th April; ANGLESEY: A rookery of 40+ birds at Pandy Cefn Coch, also rookeries at Fadog Farm, Llanfaelog, Llanfachraeth and Llanyghenedl.

Large counts (100+) were: GWENT: 110 at Dingestow Court on 5th July; E. GLAMORGAN: 175 at Laleston on 5th Jan, 100 at Southerndown on 6th Jan; CARMARTHEN: The best wintering counts were from Penlan Uchaf with 176 on 4th March and 112 on 20th Nov; PEMBROKE: Max count 200 at the Teifi est on 23rd Nov; BRECON: 100 at Sarnau on 4th April, probably from colonies in the Llandefaelog area; MONTGOMERY: 100 in the Pontrobert area on 15th Sept; CAERNARFON: 100 at Prenteg on 4th Aug; DENBIGH: 200+ at Nant-y-Glyn on 27th Sept; FLINT: 100+ at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft on 6th Dec and 120 at Caerwys on 1st July.

2014: DENBIGH: In the parish of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, the 4-6 rookeries have been counted at 5 year intervals from 1961 to 2014. Nest counts slowly built up from 255 in 1965 to a maximum of 503 in 1995. Since then numbers have decreased to 288 nests in 2014.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone*

BRAN DYDDYN

(C) *An abundant resident and partial migrant throughout Wales. Often regarded as the principal avian pest species in rural areas. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	11214
% of BirdTrack lists	69
No of 1km squares	2151

Significant breeding counts were: CAERNARFON: A record 13 pairs bred on Bardsey.

Counts of 100+ were: GWENT: 200 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 29th Aug and 100 at Pen-y-lan on 26th Oct; GOWER: 139 at Llanrhidian Marsh on 3rd July, 151 at Daltons Point on 30th Aug, 150 there on 1st Sept and 146 on 14th Sept, 163 at Llanrhidian Marsh on 4th Oct, 145 at Blackpill in Sept and 170 there in Oct; PEMBROKE: Maximum count 200 at Black Tar on 16th Aug; BRECON: 100 on recently-planted spring barley at Glandwr Farm,

Garthbrenghy on 19th May; MEIRIONNYDD: 104 at Morfa Harlech on 21st May, 300 at Morfa Dyffryn on 4th June; CAERNARFON: 100 at Llandrillo-yn-rhos on 30th April and 150 on the shore at Deganwy on 23rd Jan; DENBIGH: 100+ at Llandrillo-yn-Rhos on 30th April and 170 at Holt on 18th Aug; FLINT: 200 at Connah's Quay NR on 7th June.

HOODED CROW *Corvus cornix*

BRAN LWYD

(A) *An irregular wanderer to Wales, mainly in winter and most frequent to coastal areas. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	38
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	21

E. GLAMORGAN: One at Parc Slip NR on 30th April; PEMBROKE: Single birds at Wooltack Point on 15th March, Ramsey on 3rd April with probably the same bird on Skokholm the next day, Skomer on 8th June and Martins Haven on 17th Oct; CAERNARFON: One was on Bardsey for much of the spring, with 3 here on three dates in March and on 14th April. Up to two here in May, and one remained until early June. Singles on 15th July, on three dates in August and on 13th Sept. The regular bird returned on 25th Sept and stayed for the rest of the year, joined by a second on 21st Oct. The only mainland record was nearby, in the Trwyn y Gwyddel – Bychestyn area on 9th Sept; ANGLESEY: One at Llanfachraeth on 12th July and 20th Aug and one on Gorad flooded field at Valley on 24th Nov. Singles around The Range on 7th and 14th Sept and 28th Oct, at Holyhead Breakwater C.P. on 18th - 21st Oct and around McDonalds in Holyhead from 27th Dec into the New Year.

RAVEN *Corvus corax*

CIGFRAN

(C) *Resident: distributed throughout the whole of Wales. Numbers are very high in many of the uplands and coastal-cliff areas. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	3797
% of BirdTrack lists	20
No of 1km squares	1383

GWENT: 30 above Silent Valley on 24th April reflects the large number of non-breeding birds in this area. 40 at Gwern Ddu Farm on 8th Aug and 23 over the Wye valley near Brockweir on 4th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: Max. counts from the Blaencannaid roost:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
189	150	89	271	322	413	415	383	349	162	93	69

GOWER: Max 19 at Oxwich Marsh on 29th Aug and 26 at Berllwyd on 7th Sept; CARMARTHEN: Max 12 at Pâl y Cwrt 3rd Sept; PEMBROKE: 36 on Skomer on 22nd Sept; BRECON: Early indications of an ongoing study of breeding pairs in the county, comparing density in upland commons with more lowland farmed districts, suggests the population is

now three times stronger in the lowlands. A sheep carcass at Pete's Hill (MOD Epynt) attracted 40 birds on 2nd Aug. 16 gathered at dusk over Craig Fan Las ridge (Beacons) on 29th Sept prior to heading north to roost, and 14 feeding on Mynydd Llangatwg on 4th Oct; MONTGOMERY: Max counts were 45+ at the Beacon Ring on 9th Aug, 25 over Pontrobert on 6th Oct, and 20+ at Dolydd Hafren on 21st Feb; MEIRIONNYDD: Max 15 at Cadair Bronwen on 16th Sept; CAERNARFON: 4 pairs present on Bardsey during the spring, equalling the record set in 2007, but no young fledged here. Max counts 21 on Bardsey on 21st Sept and 23 at Bryn Pydew on 31st Aug; ANGLESEY: 28 at Pont Marquis on 14th Feb; DENBIGH: 17 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 11th Aug and at Moel Arthur on 16th Aug, with 20 at Mynydd Hiraethog on 16th Oct. Breeding:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
DENBIGH	15	60	42	40	2.67

FLINT: A flock of 30 at a dead sheep on the marshes at Flint on 16th Oct.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

DRYWEURBEN

(C) An abundant resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3433
% of BirdTrack lists	20
No of 1km squares	996

Autumn 2015 saw a large movement of Goldcrest south and west through Britain. GWENT: A large increase in number of records. In autumn, 110 birds were caught and ringed by GRG at NWR Uskmouth; E. GLAMORGAN: Bred at 6 sites, with probable breeding at 8 sites and possible at another 46 sites. Max count 18 at Kenfig Pool on 9th Oct; GOWER: 167 individuals were trapped and ringed at Oxwich marsh in 2015, including 139 in Oct. Sex was confirmed in 162 birds, 109 were male and 53 were female; CARMARTHEN: Eight pairs bred at Penclacwydd. There were 10 at Usk Res. on 21st June; PEMBROKE: Max count 12 in Colby Wood. Evidence of breeding in 34 1km squares; BRECON: Recent mild winters were reflected in an increased number of records. Song heard at many sites during March – May, including 16 males in 1.5 km² of forestry at Mynydd Wysg (SN8326/8327). A good breeding season indicated by high counts in late-summer; 19 at Coed Ty-mawr on 6th Sept and 17 at Llaneglwys Wood on 19th. Good numbers ringed by LRG at Llangorse in Sept/Oct could have involved some passage migrants; MONTGOMERY: Passage movement evident from 20th Sept, max of 37 at Lake Vyrnwy on 1st Nov but an estimated 100+ per day moving through the area; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding season records from 44 sites; CAERNARFON: Two pairs bred on Bardsey, the fourth time the species has bred here but the first time more than one pair recorded. Spring passage on Bardsey peaked at 120 on 5th April and autumn passage here at 116 on 8th Oct. On the mainland, 54 at Llyn Crafnant on 13th Oct; ANGLESEY: 16 at South Stack on 8th Oct and 20 here on 28th Oct; DENBIGH: A large number were ringed during the late summer and autumn migration, including 198 ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest between 2nd Aug and 1st Oct, almost doubling the numbers from 2014. The max count was 77 newly ringed and 4 retraps on 1st Oct; FLINT: Max 5 at Connah's Quay NR on 2nd Feb.

No of BirdTrack records	349
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	108

Records of breeding or possible breeding were: GWENT: A breeding survey across much of the Wentwood forest found 22 occupied territories. Elsewhere, from the Chepstow area through the Wye Valley and at Abergavenny there were 23 occupied territories; CEREDIGION: An unusual record of two displaying at Furnace Cadw car park on 26th April; MONTGOMERY: A few pairs had bred at Lake Vyrnwy since the early 1980's but for the 2nd consecutive year no birds reported during the breeding season here or anywhere else; MEIRIONNYDD: 2 at Coed y Brenin on 24th April, the first spring record since 2000.

The table below summarises the monthly occurrence for each county.

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
GWENT*	1									2	3	2
E. GLAMORGAN	1	5	1						2	8	4	2
GOWER		3							1		12	1
CARMARTHEN	1										3	
PEMBROKE	6	3	1	1		1	1		8	18	3	6
CEREDIGION	3	1	2	2						2		
MONTGOMERY	1									1	1	
MEIRIONNYDD				2				1				
CAERNARFON												
Bardsey				7	1				1+	5	1+	
Great Orme				1					3	6	1	
Elsewhere	4	1	1						1	9	2	3
ANGLESEY			1		1					6	7	3
DENBIGH	3	3	1							8	3	5
FLINT										1	2	1

* Gwent: away from the main breeding areas.

Large counts (3+) were GOWER: 3 at Mumbles Hill on 4th Nov; PEMBROKE: 3 at Bosheston on 30th Jan, 3 on Skomer on 30th Sept and 4 here on 14th Oct, 3 on Skokholm on 16th -18th Oct; CAERNARFON: A series of records from the Great Orme between 8th Sept and 3rd Nov. It is difficult to be sure how many birds were involved; most records were of 1-3 birds, but the peak count was 6 on 30th Oct. On Bardsey birds were recorded between 9th Sept and mid-Nov, peaking at 5 on 18th Oct and 4 on the 19th. Further west, 4 in the Afon Daron valley near Aberdaron on 28th Oct with 3 here the next day; ANGLESEY: Three at Porth Eilian on 6th Nov, 4 near the toilets at Llanelian on 8th Nov; DENBIGH: Up to 3 at RSPB Conwy from 1st Jan to 14th Feb. 1-3 birds regular here in the 2nd winter period, max 5 on 31st Oct and 9th Dec. Autumn sightings also at Llanddulas max 3 on 30th Oct.

BLUE TIT *Cyanistes caeruleus*

TITW TOMAS LAS

(C) An abundant resident species, most numerous in deciduous woodland but not restricted to this preferred habitat, especially in winter when it is more numerous. Increasing. Unusual on the Welsh islands. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	9157
% of BirdTrack lists	55
No of 1km squares	1735

Reported to have had a good breeding season in several counties. Breeding details were: GWENT: Most records of breeding came from the monitoring of nest box schemes in the north of the county and nearer the coast: these produced the following results:

Site	Details
Argoed/Abercommyn Fms, Brynithel	14 nest-boxes; from 98 eggs, 39 chicks fledged (38.2%)
Blaenllwynau Farm, Hafodyrnys	12 nest-boxes; from 98 eggs, 43 chicks fledged (43.9%)
Blansychan Valley Pontypool	15 nest-boxes; 113 eggs, 49 chicks fledged (43.36%)
Brynithel Cemetery & Woodland Brynithel	26 nest-boxes; 214 eggs, 87 chicks fledged (40.65%)
Hafodarthan Farm Brynithel	15 nest-boxes; 117 eggs, 45 chick fledged (38.56% success)
Llanhilleth Farm	4 nest-boxes; 30 eggs, 4 chicks fledged (13.33% success)
Llanwern steelworks	26 juveniles ringed at nest box colony
Magor Pill	19 juveniles ringed at nest box colony

GOWER: At Cwm Clydach study area 70 prs to egg stage, 55 prs fledging young, produced 335 young, 4.8 young/ box; CARMARTHEN: Data from two nest box schemes: at Halfway, mean clutch size 11.00, mean no. of young reared 9.05, while at Cyngordy, mean clutch size 7.64, mean no. of young reared 6.86. One pair at Halfway raised 14 young from a clutch of 15. Elsewhere 25 pairs bred in nest boxes at Abbey Woods, Whitland and 22 pairs bred at Penclacwydd; BRECON: Breeding success was quite poor; MEIRIONNYDD: At Hafod y Wern, Gwaith Powdwr, 8 nests in boxes contained 67 eggs, producing 58 pulli of which 48 fledged; CAERNARFON: A record four pairs bred on Bardsey. Breeding details for sites in DENBIGH and FLINT were:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	42	320	231	206	4.90
Pandy	21	147	122	80	3.81
Llewesog Hall	37	337	171	150	4.05
Llangollen area	34	274	193	118	3.47
Coed Nantddu	10	111	69	68	6.80
Gellifor	7	62	35	22	3.14
Beeches Farm	3	28	27	19	6.33
Coed y Felin	17	139	92	79	4.65
Rhydymwyn	18	93	73	57	3.17
TOTALS	189	1511	1013	799	4.23
Mean yng/nest for 2004 to 2014 (n = 1400)					4.92

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

TITW MAWR

(C) A widespread and numerous species throughout Wales up to approximately 500m above sea level. Increasing. Unusual on the Welsh islands. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	6964
% of BirdTrack lists	42
No of 1km squares	1549

GWENT: In nest-box colonies in the Brynithel/Blaenserchan area, 53 pairs nested, laying 267 eggs and fledging 120 young; a success rate from eggs of just under 45%. On the coast, 116 young were ringed at nest box colonies by GRG; GOWER: At Cwm Clydach study area, 34 prs to egg stage, 22 prs fledging young, fledged 113 young, 3.3 young/ box; CARMARTHEN: The average clutch size of 20 nests in boxes in the NE of the county was 7.7, with a mean of 6 young raised per nest. 16 pairs bred at Penclacwydd; BRECON: Ringing data suggests improved breeding success recently when compared with Blue Tit; MEIRIONNYDD: At Hafod y Wern, Gwaith Powdwr, 8 nests in boxes contained 46 eggs, producing 43 pulli of which 24 fledged; Breeding details in DENBIGH and FLINT were:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Glyn Arthur	15	101	63	55	3.67
Pandy	29	188	146	71	2.45
Llewesog Hall	22	157	130	108	4.91
Coed Nantddu	2	14	11	11	5.50
Gellifor	1	5	5	4	4.00
Glasfryn	4	34	27	16	4.00
Coed y Felin	14	67	45	26	1.86
Rhydymwyn	30	171	120	93	3.10
Near Llangollen	17	117	98	71	4.18
TOTALS	134	854	645	455	3.40
Mean yng/nest for 2004 to 2014 (n = 1147)					4.19

COAL TIT *Periparus ater*

TITW PENDDU

(C) A widespread and fairly common resident. Most numerous in conifer woodlands. Has increased in the second half of the 20th century. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3200
% of BirdTrack lists	18
No of 1km squares	915

There was a large UK wide influx during the first week of Oct. GWENT: A total of 22 in Loysey/Wet Meadow Wood, near Trellech on 9th Feb. A bird showing characteristics of the nominate Continental race, *P. a. ater*, was noted at Peterstone Wentlooge on 8th Aug; E. GLAMORGAN: Max 20 in a Penarth garden on 15th Nov; GOWER: 17 at Delvid Burrows on 27th Sept; PEMBROKE: 20 at Dale Air Field on 25th Sept and 50 in off the sea on Ramsey on 30th Sept; BRECON: Reports in autumn suggested movement through the

county and some observers noted increased numbers at garden feeders during Nov – Dec; MONTGOMERY: For the first time, 100% of MWT survey gardens reported the species (winter 2015-16); CAERNARFON: Large counts mainly in Oct, with 20 at the Little Orme on the 3rd and 20 again on 11th and 12th Oct, while on Bardsey there were 33 on 2nd and 40 on 11th Oct; ANGLESEY: 15 at Penrhos CP on 10th Oct.

WILLOW TIT *Poecile montanus*

TITWR HELYG

(C) A thinly distributed resident, most frequent in south and east Wales and absent from most of north-west Wales. Declining across its range. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	112
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	69

GWENT: Records were not confined to Wentwood this year, with sightings also from St Pierre Great Wood in Oct, though only one bird was seen. In Wentwood, sightings on the path out to Five Paths with one bird noted near Wentwood Res in Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding records but reports during the breeding season from the Aberdare Canal, Twyn-y-giden Farm, Garn wen (Maesteg), Parc Penallta and Tirfounder fields. Outside the breeding season, 2 at Ty Mel, Lletty Brongu, on 1st Feb, Nelson Bog on 22nd Feb, Tirfounder fields on 10th Oct and S.W. Merthyr Tydfil on 7th Dec. Singles at another 9 sites: Coed Taf Forest (Oct), Garwnant (Jan & Feb), Llanharan Marsh (March), Llwyn-on Res (Oct), Mynydd y Glyn (March), Phurnie Lakes, Abercwmboi (March), Rhos Gwawr, Aberaman (March) and Taf Bargoed CP (Apr). Away from the core area, there were reports from Lavernock Pt in both Aug and Oct; GOWER: Singles at Elba St./Gowerton on 4th Jan, Penllergaer on 20th Jan, Llangwig on 26th April, Cwmton-Hir and R. Tawe/Gleision Wood on 4th May and at Grovesend on 13th Sept. and 18th Oct; CARMARTHEN: The only records received were from Llanfynydd, Usk Res and Ffarmers; PEMBROKE: Up to two reported from Ty Rhyg, Rosebush Res, Cneifa Waterfall, Llanteg, Ffynone Wood and Abercych; CEREDIGION: Recorded in small numbers at 12 localities. Breeding season records from Cors Caron, where seen all year, from Coed Dolgoed with an adult feeding two recently fledged young on 10th June and from Falcondale Lake with four newly fledged young on 22nd June; BRECON: A good number of records submitted. One came to seed at The Cwm in Jan/Feb with 1-2 there between late Sept and the year-end. In Jan, 2 in Llanbrynean Wood (Llanfrynach) on 11th and one near Usk Res (Glasfynydd Forest) on 19th. On 5th April, 3 singing males within 3 km² there. Visits in late Aug/Sept found 1-2 birds in two of those squares, and in three additional squares within Glasfynydd Forest. Elsewhere, a vocal individual at Ysgwydd Hwch, Llaneglwys on 23rd July, and 2-3 at Coedhir (Dolygaer) on 25th Sept. Finally, one was in Llangasty churchyard on 4th Dec; RADNOR: Breeding numbers reported to be up again; MONTGOMERY: Away from Lake Vyrnwy, where an ongoing study is underway, records were received outside of the breeding season from Dolydd Hafren, Gaer Fawr Hill, Pwll Penarth and west of Llanidloes. One was excavating a hole at Breidden Hill on 20th April and adult and young were at Bwlchyddar in July. The Lake Vyrnwy population was thought to be c.15 pairs with more birds likely in the adjacent

Dyfnant Forest. No nests were found at Lake Vyrnwy in 2015 but juvenile birds were present during the autumn thus confirming that local breeding did occur; MEIRIONNYDD: A few records from the usual areas of NE and SW Meirionnydd: one at Carrog on 24th Oct, two by the Afon Dyfi at Pennal on 22nd Nov; CAERNARFON: Now a very scarce bird in the county. The only record was one at Trefriw on 12th Feb; DENBIGH: Recorded in 4 1km squares, with all counts of singles. Two separate full grown birds were ringed at Bronbannog, Clocaenog Forest on 31st Aug and 1st Oct; FLINT: Recorded in 4 1km squares. Breeding season records from two BBS squares at Afonwen on 10th May and 12th June, possibly the same bird, and a max of 3 at Gronant on 22nd April. The remaining two records were from Connah's Quay NR on 20th Sept and St Asaph on 8th Nov.

MARSH TIT *Poecile palustris*

TITWR WERN

(C) A resident species, strongly sedentary, widespread but patchily distributed in the eastern half of Wales and in Pembroke. Scarce or absent in other western and northern areas. Declining across its range. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	258
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	126

GWENT: 63 records, compared to 26 in 2014. Singing birds were at Penallt and Osbaston, where adults seen carrying food. A young bird was caught at Penallt in Nov. Birds at feeders all year round at Hafod Farm, Brynmawr, in two gardens in Penallt in late summer to winter and in an Osbaston garden and at Llandegfedd Res in Nov. In the east, records from three different woods at Penallt and from Colonel's Park at Tregagle, in the Whitebrook valley; from near Tintern Abbey and in two areas at Wyndcliff, as well as at Llanishen and between Rockfield and Skenfrith. In the south, records from Piercefield, Slade Wood, St Pierre and Great Barnets Woods. In central Gwent recorded at Cefn Ila near Usk and Llanover. Areas in the west with records included Garn Lakes, Ysgryd Fach, Gwern Ddu and Cefn Hengoed whilst in the north west two records from woodland near Llanthony; E. GLAMORGAN: There were 2 at Kenfig NNR, first reported on 27th July, then regularly until the end of Oct. Elsewhere singles at Cogan Wood, Cosmeston CP (Jan, Feb & Dec), Garwnant (Aug), Coed Taf Fawr (Jan), Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr (Jan), Roath Park (Sept), Talygarn Lake (Oct & Dec), Waterloo (March) and Ty Mel, Lletty Brongu (Feb); GOWER: Present in the breeding season at Penrice, Briton Ferry Woods, Moel Tonmawr and Margam Park, with 1-2 birds at another 13 localities; CARMARTHEN: Records from Ffarmers, Brechfa, Llanfynydd, Dinas, Usk Res., Gwynfe, Talley, Dinefwr Park, Capel Dewi and Pontiets; PEMBROKE: Max count of 8 at Blackpool Mill on 27th April; CEREDIGION: Records during the breeding season (late March-July) from Coed Dolgoed, RSPB Ynys-hir, Cors Caron, Cwm Clettwr NR, Parth y Barcud nr Blaenpennal and Teifi marshes. In winter, seen at these localities and more widely, especially in the south of the county; BRECON: An excellent number of sightings suggesting this species is at least holding its own. In the first winter, garden visitors were 3 regularly to The Cwm (Llanwrthwl), 2 on several dates to Cradoc, and singles to gardens in Glasbury, Llangorse,

Pennorth, Llanfrynach, Brecon, Libanus and Garthbreny. 2 at Brecon STW on 22nd Feb, and birds called at three locations around Llanwrthwl on 5th April. Breeding suspected near Glasbury, and confirmed at The Cwm where a family of five on 3rd June. Other summer records from Scethrog, Llangasty, Bronllys, Llangammarch Wells and Cnwch Wood. Many of the gardens attracting birds in the early months did so again late in the year, with additions in Llyswen and Garth. One was in Cwm Llech above Pentrebach on 20th Sept; MONTGOMERY: Now seemingly only thinly distributed in small numbers. Breeding confirmed at Roundton Hill and Lake Vyrnwy and juveniles found at Bwlchyddar in July. Birds recorded during the breeding season in widespread locations including Berriew, Pentre'r Beirdd, Dolydd Hafren and near Llanidloes; CAERNARFON: Two records of singles at Coedty, on 16th and 30th April and one in the area of Coed Gwydyr between Tŷ Hyll and Llyn Geirionnydd on 22nd March. One on the Little Orme on 25th Sept was probably a migrant; ANGLESEY: One at Cae Glas, Valley on 10th Dec; DENBIGH: Recorded in 11 1km squares, most records of singles but 2 at Alyn Waters CP, Gwersyllt, Talygarth, and Bodelwyddan Castle. Max count 4 at Cyffylliog on 19th Feb. Although breeding was not recorded, one record came from a BBS survey at Erddig and six other records were during the breeding season; FLINT: Recorded in 6 1km squares. Two records of singles in the breeding season from Llanfynydd on 8th April and Rhydymwyn on 9th May. Two singles in the Pantymwyn area on 19th Jan and 15th July. Further records were of 2 at Tremeirchion on 8th Feb and a max of 3 at Llyn Helyg on 14th Dec.

BEARDED TIT *Panurus biarmicus*

TITW BARFOG

(A) Breeds at Newport Wetlands; otherwise a rare autumn and winter visitor to reedbed areas. Wales Amber listed. On WRP list for records away from GWENT and E. GLAMORGAN.

No of BirdTrack records	38
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	6

GWENT: All sightings were from the species' stronghold at NWR Uskmouth. Monthly maxima are given in the table below.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	1	5	8	15	5	2	2	31	7	2	-

Coordinated counts on 8th, 11th and 21st May recorded a minimum of six pairs on each occasion. Males were seen taking food to nest sites in different reedbeds on 13th and 21st May and young subsequently seen at both sites, with four juveniles on 26th May and three on 19th June. A party of six with four juveniles was seen at a different reedbed on 11th May, while a coordinated count on 19th June recorded a total of 12 birds. During early Aug, five juveniles were trapped and ringed, and a coordinated count on 29th Sept found 31 birds across the Uskmouth reedbeds.

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea*

EHEDYDD Y COED

(A) Formerly resident but now extinct as a breeding species.

No of BirdTrack records	22
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	11

E. GLAMORGAN: One in the fields just east of Lavernock Pt on 28th and 30th Oct and 11th Nov; GOWER: 3 in fields at Overton on 8th, 11th and 13th Jan and one on 1st Feb. In autumn, 3 at Pitton on 18th Oct; CAERNARFON: Singles on the Great Orme on 25th Oct, 1st and 20th Nov.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

EHEDYDD

(C) A widespread but declining breeding species; abundant passage migrant in autumn and winter. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2166
% of BirdTrack lists	12
No of 1km squares	809

Breeding records included: GWENT: Bred near Tredegar and fledged young seen at Rhyd y Blew. A nest on Byrgwm fledged three chicks and two at Hafodrynys fledged two and three chicks respectively; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding at Cwm Rhydymilwyr, Caerlan Farm and Mynydd-y-Gaer. 6 pairs held territory in Tair Carreg, Fochriw, and 4 pairs at Sker; GOWER: Bred at Baglan Bay, Crymlyn Burrows, Baglan Energy Park, Kilvey Hill, Morfa Tip and Cwm Nant y Fedw, probably bred at Port Talbot Harbour, Margam Moors and Mynydd y Gelli; CARMARTHEN: 25+ singing birds at Garreg Lwyd on 22nd March and 20 at Mynydd Llanfihangel-rhos-y-corn on 6th April; PEMBROKE: 12 territories on Skokholm and 8 on Ramsey; BRECON: Counts of singing males in the uplands in May included 27 within SN9536 (Llyn Dwr) and 15 on neighbouring BBS transects on SN9537 (Ysgirfechan) on 1st May. In late May, 26 around Mynydd Pen-cwrn (Llangatwg) on 26th, and 42 across 5 km² of Abergwesyn Common the following day; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding season records were received from 31 sites; CAERNARFON: 5 territories in a BBS square at Aberdaron in May, 3 pairs nested on Bardsey.

Large counts (100+) were: GWENT: 307 at Pen-y-lan on 26th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: 200 at Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm on 8th Jan and 400 at Llancadle on 31st Jan. In the second winter period, 103 at Lan Farm on 8th Dec; CARMARTHEN: The best winter counts were from the stubble fields at Penlan Uchaf with 225 on 23rd Jan., 163 on 2nd Feb., 267 on 20th Nov. and 139 on 11th Dec; PEMBROKE: The largest autumn passage was reported from the islands on 25th Sept, with 292 on Skokholm and 1,440 on Ramsey; CEREDIGION: 100 at Llanon on 2nd Oct; BRECON: 100 in cereal stubble near Felincamlais on 6th March; CAERNARFON: Max 124 on Bardsey in Oct.

SHORE LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

EHEDYDD Y TRAETH

(A) Rare passage migrant or winter visitor, on WRP list

A singing male was on Bardsey CAERNARFON on 30th-31st May. The species is much less frequent in Wales than it used to be, and this is the first Welsh record since 2010.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD

(C) Locally common breeding visitor, most numerous in eastern counties, increasing. Passage migrant in spring and autumn. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1245
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	371

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th March	West Pill	28 th Sept	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	8 th March	Kenfig Pool	5 th Oct	Kenfig Pool
GOWER	8 th March	Swansea Vale	1 st Nov	Eglwys Nunydd Res.
CARMARTHEN	7 th March	Penclacwydd	16 th Sept	Pembrey Harbour
PEMBROKE	7 th March	Teifi Marsh and Felindre Farchog	25 th Sept	Dale Air Field
CEREDIGION	6 th March	Aberystwyth		
BRECON	7 th March	Llangorse Lake	2 nd Sept	Garth Lake
RADNOR	17 th March	Llowes	20 th Sept	Glasbury
MONTGOMERY	14 th March	Llyn Coed y Dinas	10 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	31 st March	Dyfi N bank	13 th Sept	Ynys
CAERNARFON	14 th March	Hafan-y-Mor, Pwllheli	8 th Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	19 th March	South Stack & Cefni est	4 th Sept	Llyn Maelog
DENBIGH	11 th March	Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd	9 th Sept	Trefriw
FLINT	3 rd April	Rhyl Brickworks	10 th Sept	Connah's Quay NR

Breeding records were: GWENT: No reports from any of the regular colonies. The only report was of a handful nesting in two Sand Martin nest-boxes at Cwmbran Boating Lake; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding in Bridgend town centre, where six pairs entering pipes under the bridge on 22nd April. Two pairs entering pipes on 3rd June in Taf Bargoed CP, 7 birds prospecting nest sites on 3rd May in Quaker's Yard and bred at Caerphilly Castle Moat, with max 35 birds on 20th June; GOWER: A total of 449 - 452 occupied nest holes at 14 colonies. This compares with 603 - 608 nests in 2014, though this included Aberpergwm Colliery, where no count was made in 2015. Excluding this site, a 20% decrease since 2014. The largest colonies were 314 nests on the Loughor above Pontarddulais and 28 in the new purpose built artificial bank at Port Talbot Harbour; CEREDIGION: Breeding records came from the Ystwyth near Llanilar with 20 pairs breeding and from Llanrhystud/Llansantffraed with 35 pairs; BRECON: Nest-hole counts at

breeding sites were few but included 245 along the Usk at Scethrog, 10 at Brecon by-pass (E) and 6-8 on the Honddu at Upper Cwmtidy Farm (Lower Chapel). 18 birds were agitated by the observer close to a traditional colony at Beiligwern Farm (Crai). Presence of birds in summer at Pont-ar-wysg, Craig-y-nos CP and Abergwesyn suggested small colonies at those sites too; MEIRIONNYDD: Birds visiting at least 20 nest holes at the Pont y Gain, Trawsfynydd colony on 26th April. 12 birds flying around the Tonfanau nesting colony on 18th June; CAERNARFON: 60 nests at Porth Neigwl on 12th June and 100 holes, though probably not all occupied, here on 15th July. Breeding was also recorded at sea-cliffs near Llanengan, where 25 birds present on 20th June, in the Porth Dinllaen - Morfa Nefyn area, where a max of 55 birds on 15th July and at Criccieth, where there were 20 birds on 28th July. 12+ were investigating nest holes on Afon Conwy between Betws y Coed and Llanrwst on 21st April; ANGLESEY: 5 – 10 burrows at Cemlyn with breeding also on Afon Crigyll near Rhosneigr; DENBIGH: At least 20 birds at the Afonwen colony by 18th April.

Large counts (100+) on passage were: GWENT: 110 at Llandegfedd Res on 19th April and 200 here on 29th April. On return passage, 120 were at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons on 8th Aug and again on 31st; and on the latter date, 213 passing Peterstone Wentlooge; E. GLAMORGAN: 200 over Cardiff Bay on 28th April and 150 over Llan/Lis Res on 2nd May. In autumn, 100 at Lavernock Pt on 10th Sept; GOWER: 118 at Swansea Vale on 29th April; CARMARTHEN: c. 100 over Machynys Golf Course on 11th April and c.300 at Sandy W.P. on 14th July. August counts included c.150 at Sandy W.P. on 22nd; PEMBROKE: 100 at Teifi Marshes on 30th April, 100+ on Ramsey on 7th May In autumn 100+ at Stackpole Warren on 16th Sept. Autumn passage on Ramsey was higher than usual, max 1,068/hr on 19th Sept; CEREDIGION: 500 at Pen Dinas, Aberystwyth on 9th May; BRECON: A roost at Llangorse Lake held 150 on 1st April, followed by feeding flocks of 350 on 11th April, 400 on 26th and 800 on 27th. Adverse weather brought the year's highest counts, with chilly conditions forcing down 1,500 low over the water on 2nd May, and similarly, rain held up 2,000 on 6th, while a cold SW wind on 18th brought 1,300. Post-breeding, 500 at Llangorse Lake on 23rd June probably involved mostly first brood juveniles, with later peaks of 300 on 31st July and 170 in pre-roost flight on 27th Aug. A count of 250 at Talybont Reservoir on 28th July was significant for that site, with only a small breeding colony known there; MONTGOMERY: Llyn Coed y Dinas produced the highest count with 150+ on 11th April; CAERNARFON: 120 at Afonwen pools on 11th April; ANGLESEY: 100 at Valley Wetlands on 8th April and 100+ on Llyn Cefni on 19th Apr with 250+ there on 27th April.

SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

GWENNOL

(C) A widely distributed and common summer visitor and passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5064
% of BirdTrack lists	28
No of 1km squares	1521

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	19 th March	Duffryn & Newbridge	18 th Nov	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	20 th March	Parc Slip NR	3 rd Nov	3 sites
GOWER	31 st March	Swansea Vale	21 st Oct	Swansea Vale
CARMARTHEN	1 st April	Morfa, Llanelli & Pwll	30 th Nov	Pembrey Harbour
PEMBROKE	2 nd April	3 sites	18 th Nov	Bosherston
CEREDIGION	16 th March	Ynyslas	29 th Oct	Ynyslas
BRECON	1 st April	Llangorse Lake	17 th Oct	Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	2 nd April	Clyro	31 st Oct	Knighton
MONTGOMERY	1 st April	Llyn Coed y Dinas	25 th Oct	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	2 nd April	Dyfi N bank	18 th Oct	Coed y Brenin
CAERNARFON	2 nd April	Morfa Nefyn & Bardsey	22 nd Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	22 nd March	Malltraeth	5 th Nov	Bull Bay
DENBIGH	14 th March	RSPB Conwy	18 th Oct	Pendre
FLINT	5 th April	Connah's Quay NR	23 rd Oct	Talacre

Breeding records included: GWENT: Around Brynithel/Hafodryns, Argoed Farm held 11 nests and a total of 50 eggs laid, from which 45 young fledged, with all nests successful. Blaenllwynau Farm had three nests; a total of 15 eggs were laid and although one nest was deserted, six young were fledged. Byrgwm had two nests but both were predated, while on Hafodarthren Farm there were 19 nests (86 eggs laid) of which four were deserted and two predated, with the remaining nests fledging a total of 49 young. Llanhilleth Farm had three nests but the parents deserted one and the remainder fledged 10 youngsters. Pwll-y-domen Farm had two nests, with 8 young fledged. At Penallt, 29 pulli were ringed from 11 nests there, across two sites; while at Newcastle, from 6 nesting pairs, only 14 pulli were ringed. At Caerwent a pair raised three broods (of 4, 3 and 3 respectively) with the last brood leaving the nest on 9th Aug; GOWER: Bred at 27 localities; CARMARTHEN: Four pairs bred at Penclacwydd each fledging 2+ broods; BRECON: Although some nests fledged second broods, the breeding season was quite poor; CAERNARFON: A record equalling total of 21 pairs bred on Bardsey, but the number of young produced was below average; ANGLESEY: At least 13 pairs at Cemlyn.

Breeding records at sites in DENBIGH and FLINT:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Eggs hatched	Young fledged	Young per nest
Pandy	19	78	66	66	3.47
Tregeiriog	1	5	5	5	5.00
Llangollen area	46	183	146	138	3.00
Rhydymwyn	1	6	6	6	6.00
TOTALS	67	272	23	215	3.21
Mean yng/nest for 2004 to 2014 (n = 561)					3.30

Large spring passage counts (300+): GOWER: 396 at Broughton Burrows on 10th May; PEMBROKE: On Ramsey spring passage ran to 4th June with maximums of 2,000+ on 7th and 16th May; CEREDIGION: 1,500 at Ynyslas on 8th May and 1,000 at Aberystwyth on 9th May; CAERNARFON: Bardsey recorded 942 on 13th May, 1,300 on 15th May; ANGLESEY: 816 at Cemlyn on 7th May; DENBIGH: 350 flying over RSPB Conwy on 26th April.

On return passage: GWENT: 525 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 22nd Aug and 811 on 30th. In Sept, 300 at Newport Wetlands on 1st and 8th and 620 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 19th, 845 there on 21st Sept, then 362 on 28th with 322 there next day and 382 on 3rd Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: 45,000 at Cardiff Bay on 16th Sept, rivalling the area's highest ever count of 50,000 in 2002. 8,000 over here and 10,000 over Lavernock Pt on 30th Sept; GOWER: 450 at Castell Du on 9th Sept and 300 at The Quays/Brunel Dock on 17th Sept; CARMARTHEN: At Llansteffan about 1,000 were heading SE between 12:00 and 13:00 on 16th Sept, 306 heading SE at Penlan Uchaf on 23rd Sept; PEMBROKE: 5,403 on Skokholm and 5,421 on Skomer on 16th Sept, with 3,168 at the latter on 29th. On Ramsey autumn passage saw a peak of 3,300/hr on 16th Sept. On the mainland max 750 at Stackpole on 16th Sept; CAERNARFON: 454 on Bardsey on 31st Aug, 885 here on 8th Sept, 1,146 on the 18th and 505 on 19th Sept; ANGLESEY: 1,200 at Malltraeth on 10th Sept; FLINT: The highest count of the year came from Shotton Steelworks with 500 on 19th Sept.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

GWENNOL Y BONDO

(C) Summer visitor, well distributed and locally common. Increasing. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2658
% of BirdTrack lists	14
No of 1km squares	949

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	5 th April	Inland	18 th Nov	NWR
E. GLAMORGAN	8 th April	Kenfig NNR	26 th Oct	Lavernock Pt
GOWER	12 th April	Swansea Vale	7 th Oct	Rhossili - Port Eynon
CARMARTHEN	5 th April	Pembrey Country Park	10 th Oct	Dryslwyn Bridge
PEMBROKE	4 th April	4 sites	20 th Oct.	Ramsey
CEREDIGION	5 th April	Teifi est.	20 th Sept	Teifi est.
BRECON	19 th March	Sennybridge	11 th Oct	Nant-ddu (Beacons)
RADNOR	6 th April	Llandrindod Wells	22 nd Oct	Knighton
MONTGOMERY	4 th April	Llyn Coed y Dinas	25 th Oct	Ceinws
MEIRIONNYDD	14 th April	Beddgelert	25 th Oct	Ceinwys
CAERNARFON	4 th April	Bardsey	10 th Oct	Llandudno Junction
ANGLESEY	19 th March	South Stack	26 th Sept	Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn
DENBIGH	28 th March	RSPB Conwy	10 th Oct	Denbigh
FLINT	6 th April	Connah's Quay NR	5 th Oct	Hope

Breeding records: GWENT: Nest counts included 10 at Monmouth Golf Club, 6 at Llangybi, 9 at Porton, 16 at Brynmawr, with others at Crosskeys, Abergavenny, Cwmbran and Maypole; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding reports from 16 locations. The largest population is in the Cardiff Bay area, with the number of active nests: Penarth Marina (71), Cogan - Pont-y-Werin (15) and Grangemoor Park/Windsor Quay (51). Adventurer's Quay however had only 3 nests, down from a peak of 20 in past years, as did Grangemoor Court.

Elsewhere counts of nests from another 7 sites, max 15 at Rudry; GOWER: Bred at 28 localities; BRECON: Occupied nest counts at 13 sites, max 7 at The Cwm. Several sites held evidence of stronger colonies in the past. The decline in nests at the increasingly derelict pump-house at Lower Neuadd Res continues, with few now occupied; MEIRIONNYDD: Two young attended by adults in nest at Ceinwys on 18th Oct, fledging on the very late date of 25th Oct. Breeding also recorded at another 8 sites; CAERNARFON: Seven pairs nested on Bardsey, raising a minimum of four young. The poor weather in spring delayed breeding here, with the first brood not fledging until 11th Aug; ANGLESEY: Bred at several sites in Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn, nine nests noted in Station Rd Rhosneigr.

Large counts (200+) on passage included: GWENT: Autumn counts at Peterstone Wentlooge peaked at 3,100 on 5th Sept. Large numbers also at NWR Goldcliff Lagoons, with 900 on 31st Aug and 600 on 26th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: 420 over Dunraven on 28th Sept and 400 over Cardiff Bay on 30th. The largest count also came on 30th Sept, with 1,000 over Lavernock Pt. In Oct there were 300 at Lavernock Pt on the 8th; PEMBROKE: On Ramsey autumn passage saw a max of 500/hr on 19th Sept; CEREDIGION: 250 at Henllan and 300 at both Ynys Tachwedd and Aberystwyth, all on 11th Sept; BRECON: 200 with other hirundines over the Llangasty reedbeds on 28th Aug; MONTGOMERY: 500+ above Lake Vyrnwy on 26th Aug; MEIRIONNYDD: 250 at Llyn Tegid on 13th Sept.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

TELOR CETTI

(B) Scarce breeding resident in south Wales and Anglesey, increasing; occasionally recorded on passage. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1184
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	119

GWENT: Recorded in all months at Newport Wetland Reserve (NWR) with a max count of 29 in April but breeding season surveys in the reed-beds suggested 46 singing males. Elsewhere at NWR birds were heard at Goldcliff Lagoons, Saltmarsh Lane grasslands, Boat Lane and Red House Farm. Up to three singing males at Magor Reserve and Peterstone Wentlooge all year and birds heard at Hunger Pill, Collister Pill, Caldicot Moor, Undy, Queensway (Newport), Marshfield and St Brides but none further inland; E. GLAMORGAN: 526 reports from 28 locations (c.f. 290 at 15 locations in 2014), mainly from coastal or near-coastal reedbeds from Rhumney Great Wharf in the east to Kenfig River reedbed and saltmarsh in the west. Recently fledged juveniles at Kenfig NNR on 25th July and singing males at six possible breeding sites. Max counts in April/May were 12 at Kenfig Pool, four at Cardiff Bay and at Lamby Lake and three at both Hendre and Cosmeston Lakes; GOWER: Probably bred at Oxwich NNR and Crymlyn Bog and present at 26 more localities. 18 singing at Heol Cae'r Bont on 24th May and 10 between Morfa Bach and River Kenfig estuary on 10th June whilst at Oxwich 24 birds were trapped and ringed, of which 18 were juveniles. One bird caught at Oxwich in Nov 2014 had been ringed at Magor Marsh, Monmouthshire in July 2012; CARMARTHEN: Singing males at Penclacwydd (5), Berwick Roundabout (3), Pwll, Ashpits Pond, Ffrwd Fen (5), Kymer's

Canal (3), Carmarthen (2) and Witchett Pool; PEMBROKE: Noted at Angle Bay, Penally, Stackpole, Goodwick Moor, Castlemartin Corse, Freshwater east, Teifi Marshes, Giltar Point, Tenby, Tre Brython Farm, Llangloffan, Pembroke Upper Mill Pond and Mullock Bridge and possibly bred at 6 of these sites. One on Skomer on 8th Oct was the eighth island record; CEREDIGION: Seen all year at the Teifi marshes with small numbers breeding. One singing at RSPB Ynys-hir on 4th May and another at Glandwr, Cors Fochno on 7th May; BRECON: Three territories on south side of Llangorse Lake where one nest was known to be successful with two juveniles ringed on 7th-8th Aug. Song was heard at the lake Jan to end May and from mid Nov to year end; MONTGOMERY: Heard at Cors Dyfi on 4th May; CAERNARFON: Heard at the usual breeding site near Porthmadog in March and June, with a migrant on the Great Orme on 29th Oct; ANGLESEY: 1-2 at Malltraeth on many dates between 9th Feb and 28th Oct; two calling at Valley Wetlands on 20th April and 4 on 26th April. Two at Llyn Cerrig Bach on 24th April and one at Llyn Maelog on 26th Sept; DENBIGH: Only four records, all of singles in Jan at RSPB Conwy, possibly the same bird or birds recorded there during Sept to Dec 2014; FLINT: Records at Shotton Steelworks in May, July, Sept, Oct and Nov with the highest count 6 on 16th July. Singles at Rhyl brickworks on 31st Jan and Shotwick rifle range on 10th Nov.

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

TITW CYNFFON-HIR

(C) *A relatively common resident, widely distributed except on parts of Anglesey and Llyn. Numbers fluctuate widely from year to year in response to the severity of winter weather. Increasing. Unusual on the islands. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	3519
% of BirdTrack lists	20
No of 1km squares	922

Highest counts (20+) and significant breeding records were: GWENT: 40 at Goldcliff Lagoons on 30th Sept, 20 in Oct and 20 also in Sept at Bargoed Woodland Park; E. GLAMORGAN: 22 at Forest Farm and 21 at Kenfig NNR on 1st Jan, 20 at Forest Farm on 29th Aug, 25 in Roath Park on 14th Oct and at Pant-yr-Awel on 28th Oct, 28 at Lavernock Pt on 19th Oct and 30 at Heath Park on 18th Dec; GOWER: 33 at Talbot Memorial Park on 18th Dec; CARMARTHEN: 13 pairs bred at Penclacwydd; CEREDIGION: 30 at Penglais woods on 3rd Feb and 26 in a garden at Capel Seion on 5th July; BRECON: 30 by the Usk at Glangrwyney on 2nd Feb, 20 at Upper Neuadd Resin Oct; MONTGOMERY: 30+ at Dolydd Hafren on 30th Aug, 4th Oct and 1st Nov; MEIRIONNYDD: 25 at Pennal, Afon Dyfi on 22nd Nov; CAERNARFON: 27 at Caerhun on 29th Oct and 50 at the Little Orme on 2nd Nov; DENBIGH: Four counts of 20-33, with the largest flock of 33 at Talygarth on 20th Dec; FLINTS: Four records of 22-50 birds, with the largest flocks being 30+ at Connah's Quay N.R. on 26th Nov, 36 at Bagillt on 8th June of which 29 were ringed and at least 50 at Hope on 13th July.

GREENISH WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

TELOR GWYRDD

(A) *Rare passage migrant, on WRP list*

Singles on Skomer PEMBROKE on 12th June and 23rd July were the fifth and sixth island records.

PALLAS'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus proregulus*

TELOR PALLAS

(A) *Vagrant, on WRP list.*

CAERNARFON: One was trapped and ringed on Bardsey on 19th Oct, and was still present the next day This is the first Welsh record since 2011, also on Bardsey.

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus*

TELOR AELFELYN

(A) *Rare autumn visitor.*

No of BirdTrack records	104
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	42

There was a large influx into Britain in autumn 2015. All records were: E. GLAMORGAN: 37 reports, with singles at Kenfig NNR, Llandaff and Roose Pt on 4th Oct, at Kenfig from 10th to 13th, two on 11th, then singles Cardiff Bay from 14th to 18th, at Roath Park on 14th, in Robertstown on 19th, at Cathay's Cemetery on 25th and lastly at Lavernock Pt on 27th; GOWER: One in a Sandfields, Aberavon, garden on 4th Oct, 1 - 2 in woodland at Mewslade between 6th and 14th, singles at Langland Bay on 15th and Swansea City Centre W. of the R. Tawe on 19th Oct; PEMBROKE. Two different individuals at Llandilo on 1st and 10th Oct, one at Whitesands and one trapped at Teifi Marshes on 3rd, with a different bird trapped on 9th, singles at Porthclais on 11th and at St Brides on 31st. On Skokholm, singles on 23rd Sept and 10th - 11th Oct with a different bird on 12th, two on 13th and a single on 16th. On Skomer singles 16th and 23rd Sept, two on 27th with one until 30th, two on 1st Oct, then singles 6th, 17th and 18th Oct; CEREDIGION: One trapped and ringed at Coed Dolgoed on 12th Oct; MONTGOMERY: One in Newtown from 12th to 16th Oct was the first for the county; CAERNARFON: Singles on the mainland on the Great Orme on 29th Sept, 3rd and 8th Oct and on 30th - 31st Oct, at West Shore, Llandudno, on 28th-30th Sept, on the Little Orme on 9th Oct, at Abergwyngregyn on 4th Oct and at Capel Curig on 28th-29th Sept. On Llŷn, there was one in the Afon Daron valley near Aberdaron on 28th-29th Oct. Bardsey had a record 17 sightings of 33 individuals between 19th Sept and 17th Oct; ANGLESEY: Singles at Holyhead Breakwater CP on 28th - 31st Oct, at Carmel Head on 10th Oct, at Soldier's Point on 4th Nov, at Wylfa Social Club on 10th Oct and at Halen Mon on 8th Nov.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

TELOR Y COED

(C) A summer visitor to oak woods throughout most of upland Wales, declining; passage migrant in small numbers at coastal sites. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	237
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	164

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th April	Cwmcam Forest Drive	3 rd July	Aberbargoed
E. GLAMORGAN	17 th April	Craig Yr Aber and Cwm Cynffig	10 th July	Craig Yr Aber
GOWER	17 th April	Craig y Aber	10 th July	Craig y Aber/Cwm Kenfig
CARMARTHEN	16 th April	Allt Rhyd y Groes	24 th July	Llanedi
PEMBROKE	18 th April	Hilton Roch		
CEREDIGION	21 st April	Cwm Clettwr	5 th Sept	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	26 th April	Ystradfellte	30 th Aug	Cnwch Wood
RADNOR	14 th April	Elan Valley & Llandrindod Wells	7 th Aug	Llandrindod Wells
MONTGOMERY	22 nd April	Lake Vyrnwy		
MEIRIONNYDD	26 th April	Dolgoch Falls	20 th July	Tan y Bwlch
CAERNARFON	16 th April	Morfa Aber	15 th July	Fachwen
DENBIGH	24 th April	Ruabon	7 th June	Dinas

GWENT: 39 records, over a third of which were from Wentwood where 11 nests were monitored. Birds heard at 13+ other sites; E GLAMORGAN: Recorded in breeding season at Allt-Y-Rhiw, Garwnant, Coed Cefn Fforest, Pant Yr Awel, Ogwr Fawr and Cwm Cenfig but no confirmed breeding; GOWER: Bred at Coed Alltcham (Pontardawe) and Cwm Dyffryn, probably bred at 21 other sites; CARMARTHEN: 8 at Talley Woods on 5th June; CEREDIGION: 5 singing males at Longwood, Bettws Bledrws, compared to 10 in 2014; BRECON: 28+ singing males at 13 sites; MONTGOMERY: Surveys at Lake Vyrnwy revealed 30+ singing males on the reserve. 15 singing birds in three woods near Llanidloes; MEIRIONNYDD: Birds at 21+ sites in the breeding season; CAERNARFON: 4-5 between Llyn Crafnant and Capel Curig, 5 at Llyn Crafnant, 6 at Trefriw and several singing at a further 14 sites. One trapped and ringed on Bardsey on 13th May was the only record for the island; FLINT: Just one record, of a single at Pantymwyn on 15th July.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita*

SIFF-SIAFF

(B) A locally common breeding visitor in most counties, declining, wintering in small numbers. Scarce on Anglesey. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5177
% of BirdTrack lists	30
No of 1km squares	1374

Summary of number of wintering records by month and county, where information available:

	Jan.	Feb.		Nov.	Dec.
GWENT	18			11	
E. GLAMORGAN	45			59	
GOWER	7	2		5+	3
CARMARTHEN	7	6		1	2
PEMBROKE	5	9			3
CEREDIGION	5	2			1
BRECON	7			1	
MONTGOMERY	2	2		6	4
MEIRIONNYDD				1	
CAERNARFON	4	2		3+	
ANGLESEY	1	1		3	3+
DENBIGH	2+	P		p	2+
FLINT	1	1		P	1+

Large winter counts included 15 at Monk Haven PEMBROKE on 2nd Jan with 6 here on 27th Dec.

GWENT: Groups of 20 at Peterstone Wentlooge and Goldcliff Lagoons on 19th Sept and 10th Oct respectively and 83 ringed at NWR Uskmouth in the autumn; E. GLAMORGAN: Notable autumn counts included 30 at Dunraven on 16th Sept, 35 at Cardiff Bay on 17th Sept, 20 at Cardiff Bay & Hamadryad Park on 22nd Sept, 20 at Britannia Park, Cardiff Bay on 24th Sept, 35 at Dunraven on 2nd Oct and 26 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct; GOWER: At Oxwich, 100 birds were ringed during the year; MONTGOMERY: 31 were ringed at Bwlchdyddar on 4th Sept; CAERNARFON: Passage on Bardsey peaked at 122 on 15th April.

Phylloscopus collybita tristis ("Siberian Chiffchaff")

(A) On WRP list.

PEMBROKE: Singles at Monk Haven on 2nd Jan, on Skokholm on 23rd Oct and one caught on the Teifi Marshes on 15th Oct; MONTGOMERY: One at Lake Vyrnwy on 25th Oct and two different birds wintering at Newtown sewage works on 16th and 18th Dec; CAERNARFON: One at Morfa Madryn on 20th Feb. On Bardsey, there was one on 20th-21st April, and in autumn one on 16th Oct and two here on the 31st.

IBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus ibericus*

SIFF-SAFF IBERIA

(A) Rare vagrant, on WRP list.

A pair with seven young at an undisclosed site in GOWER from 15th May to 5th July. This is the first recorded breeding in Britain.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus*

TELOR YR HELYG

(C) The most abundant summer visitor. Numerous in suitable habitats up to around 670 m. Also numerous passage migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2430
% of BirdTrack lists	14
No of 1km squares	965

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	4 th April	Newport Wetland Reserve	8 th Oct	Ynysfro Reservoirs
E. GLAMORGAN	15 th March	Flat Holm	13 th Oct	Ogmore Estuary
GOWER	16 th March	Bracelet Bay	23 rd Sept	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	6 th April	Penclacwydd	16 th Aug	Kidwelly Quay
PEMBROKE	27 th March	Skomer	20 th Oct	Marloes
CEREDIGION	5 th April	Aberyswyth	27 th Sept	Teifi Marshes
BRECON	4 th April	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl	30 th Aug	Belfont
RADNOR	2 nd April	Boughrood	16 th Sept	Cwmbach
MONTGOMERY	5 th April	Dolydd Hafren	27 th Sept*	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	18 th March	Penrhyndeudraeth	25 th Aug	Penmaenpool
CAERNARFON	5 th April	Bardsey	2 nd Nov	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	28 th March	Penrhos CP	16 th Sept	South Stack
DENBIGH	6 th April	RSPB Conwy	10 th Oct	Mynydd Hiraethog
FLINT	10 th April	Nercwys Mountain	1 st Sept	Sychdyn

* See below. Other records were: E GLAMORGAN: Notable spring counts were 23 at Parc Slip NR on 16th April, 20 at Garwnant on 17th April, 29 at Kenfig NNR on 28th April and 21 here on 23rd May; CEREDIGION: 70 singing males at Cross Inn forest; BRECON: High passage counts were 20+ on Buckland Hill on 6th Aug and 50 at Lower Neuadd Reservoir on 7th Aug; MONTGOMERY: A high count of 42 near Llangurig on 16th May. One with a damaged wing was at Newtown sewage works in Dec; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding records at 60 sites across the county; CAERNARFON: Passage on Bardsey peaked at 853 on 15th April, the fifth highest spring count here; DENBIGH: Numbers ringed at Bronbannog were lower than in 2014, with 35 on 2nd Aug the only large catch.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

TELOR PENDDU

(C) A plentiful summer visitor throughout Wales, increasing; passage migrant and small-scale winter visitor. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3222
% of BirdTrack lists	18
No of 1km squares	1028

Only wintering records are given for this common breeding species, the table below gives min. totals for both winter periods, for each county, where information available:

	Jan	Feb		Nov	Dec
GWENT	8+				6
E. GLAMORGAN	Many			15	
GOWER	9				1
CARMARTHEN	4	3		1	0
PEMBROKE	5	2			
BRECON	9			2	2
MONTGOMERY	10	9		2	4
CAERNARFON	1	3		6	2
ANGLESEY	2			6	
DENBIGH	P	P		P	P
FLINT	P	P			2+

Winter records in CEREDIGION from Aberystwyth, RSPB Ynys-hir and Teifi Marshes.

E GLAMORGAN: From 1st Jan until 31st March there were 42 reports, typically of one or two birds, and almost all in the south, except 11 at Tirfounder Fields on 18th Jan; GOWER: The Gower Ringing group captured 190 birds in 2015; CARMARTHEN: 37 at Penclacwydd on 27th April and 45 singing males here in the breeding season; PEMBROKE: 30+ at St David's Head on 22nd April; MONTGOMERY: 21 birds were ringed at Bwlchdyddar on 6th and 16th Aug and 15 on 29th Aug; CAERNARFON: A record total of 728 birds were trapped and ringed on Bardsey.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin*

TELOR YR ARDD

(C) A common and widely distributed summer visitor. Regular passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	497
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	279

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	23 rd April	Treowen and NWR	22 nd Sept	Bedwas
E. GLAMORGAN	5 th April	Flat Holm	8 th Oct	Lavernock Pt
GOWER	21 st April	Penllergaer Forest & Valley Woods	17 th Sept	Swansea Vale LNR
CARMARTHEN	18 th April	White Bridge, Carmarthen	3 rd Sept	Pâl y Cwrt
PEMBROKE	20 th April	Lydstep village	19 th Sept	Brownsdale Farm
CEREDIGION	10 th April	Aberaeron	9 th Sept	Near Llangrannog
BRECON	23 rd April	Sarnau Pools	18 th Aug	Cefn Cantref
RADNOR	14 th April	Cwmbach	22 nd Sept	Cwmbach
MONTGOMERY	15 th April	Dolydd Hafren	13 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	24 th April	Gelli Isaf, Bala	5 th July	Traethdy, Harlech

CAERNARFON	23 rd April	Pentir and Dinas, Llŷn	9 th Oct	Morfa Madryn
ANGLESEY	23 rd April	Llyn Cefni	21 st Sept	Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn
DENBIGH	24 th April	Ruabon	2 nd Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	22 nd April	Gronant	16 th Sept	Bagillt

CEREDIGION: 18 singing males at Llanio Woodland Trust reserve on 5th June; BRECON: Among the records in the breeding season were 12 singing males on 14th June by the River Usk between Pencelli and Llansantffraed, of which two were feeding chicks in the nest and 13 singing males or pairs in the Sennybridge/Trecastle area between mid-May and the end of June.

BARRED WARBLER *Sylvia nisoria*

TELOR RHESOG

(A) A rare visitor, on WRP list.

GWENT: One at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 3rd Oct; PEMBROKE: A first winter at St David's Head on 24th Sept and on Skokholm on the same date.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca*

LLWYDFRON FACH

(C) A summer visitor, declining. Passage migrant in small numbers. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	379
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	141

Two records of overwintering birds: CARMARTHEN One in a Llanelli garden in late December resembled the C. Asian race *S. c. halimodendri*, though race not confirmed; CAERNARFON: One on a garden feeder at Craig-y-don, Llandudno on 23rd Dec.

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	17 th April	Penallt		28 th Sept	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	16 th April	Parc Slip NR		23 rd Sept	Cardiff Bay Wetland
GOWER	26 th April	Pwll Du		8 th Oct	Swansea Vale
CARMARTHEN	21 st April	Penclacwydd		30 th Aug	Penrhyngwyn
PEMBROKE	14 th April	Lydstep village		22 nd Sept	St David's Head
CEREDIGION	17 th April	Ynyslas			
BRECON	11 th May	Llangasty		13 th Sept	Brecon STW
RADNOR	28 th April	Nant Glas		19 th Sept	Newchurch
MONTGOMERY	15 th April	Dolydd Hafren		23 rd Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	13 th May	Tonfanau			
CAERNARFON	23 rd April	Bardsey		30 th Sept	Little Orme
ANGLESEY	6 th April	Penysam		12 th Oct	South Stack
DENBIGH	20 th April	RSPB Conwy		16 th Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	24 th April	Rhuddlan		19 th Sept	Bagillt

2014: There was one at Aberthaw on 5th Oct.

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans*

TELOR BRONGOCH

(A) Rare vagrant. On WRP list, but records of specific races to BBRC.

2014: PEMBROKE: One on Ramsey on 8th-9th May. The race could not be determined.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

LLWYDFRON

(C) A widespread summer visitor and passage migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1766
% of BirdTrack lists	10
No of 1km squares	570

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	16 th April	Sluice Farm	3 rd Oct	Goldcliff Lagoons
E. GLAMORGAN	8 th April	Kenfig NNR	5 th Oct	Flat Holm
GOWER	9 th April	Gamgoch Common	12 th Oct	Bracelet Bay
CARMARTHEN	5 th April	Dinefwr Park	13 th Sept	Penrhyngwyn
PEMBROKE	16 th April	Ramsey	11 th Oct	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	15 th April	Llanrhystud	3 rd Oct	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	27 th April	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl		
RADNOR	14 th April	Cwmbach	20 th Sept	Llanstephan
MONTGOMERY	23 rd April	Middletown Hill	15 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	20 th April	Morfa Harlech	13 th Aug	Cae Du and Harlech
CAERNARFON	9 th April	Bardsey	23 rd Sept	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	30 th March	Malltraeth village	12 th Sept	Alaw Estuary
DENBIGH	16 th April	RSPB Conwy	13 th Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	18 th April	3 sites	13 th Sept	Bagillt

Notable counts in this period in E GLAMORGAN included 42 at Kenfig NNR on 1st Aug, 14 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Aug and 15 at Kenfig Pool on 16th Aug; CARMARTHEN: 17 at Penclacwydd on 27th April and 16 singing males here in the breeding season; CEREDIGION: 24 singing males at Cross Inn forest, compared to 29 in 2014; ANGLESEY: 19+ territorial males at Cemlyn.

DARTFORD WARBLER *Sylvia undata*

TELOR DARTFORD

(B) A rare migrant to coastal areas of south Wales. Bred in 1998 and in small numbers subsequently, increasing. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	46
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	31

E GLAMORGAN: A probable migrant male at Sker on 12th March but five at suitable, southerly breeding locations in March, April and June, including two at one of these locations; GOWER: 20+ pairs at Rhossili Down, Tankeylake Moor, Rams Tor and Mynydd Emroch and probable breeding at Mynydd Dinas (3 prs). Birds present at Foxhole Slade, Hardings Down, Llanmadoc Hill, Longhole Cliff, Oxwich Pt., Little Reynoldston, Deep Slade, Whiteshell Pt., Newton Cliff, Rams Tor, Limeslade and Bracelet Bay. Outside the breeding season most records at these sites, also 6 other sites; PEMBROKE: Reported from 9 sites in the breeding season and bred at two of these and probably at a third. Singles on Skomer, on 9th and 19th Oct were the 3rd and 4th island records; CAERNARFON: Several records from the usual site in the north-east of the county included a record of confirmed breeding. Outside the breeding season, one at Uwchmynydd on 18th Oct.

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella. naevia*

TROELLWR BACH

(C) Summer visitor, widely but thinly distributed in all counties. Passage migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	197
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	132

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	17 th April	NWR Uskmouth	18 th Sept	Magor Marsh Reserve
E. GLAMORGAN	9 th April	Mynydd Bach (S). Maesteg	20 th Aug	Kenfig Pool
GOWER	11 th April	Oxwich NNR	11 th Oct	Pennard Golf Course
CARMARTHEN	14 th April	Machynys Golf Course	2 nd July	Brynamon, Cefn Padrig
PEMBROKE	15 th April	Skomer	2 nd Oct	Skomer
CEREDIGION	8 th April	Mwnt		
BRECON	1 st May	Craig Cerrig Gleisiad	28 th Aug	Llangasty
RADNOR	16 th April	Nantmel	6 th Sept	Cors y Llyn
MONTGOMERY	13 th April	Cors Dyfi		
MEIRIONNYDD	17 th April	Migneint	28 th July	Boston Lodge
CAERNARFON	10 th April	Bardsey and Little Orme	6 th Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	13 th April	Cemlyn	29 th July	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	13 th April	Gellifor	31 st Aug	Bronbannog
FLINT	18 th April	Prestatyn and Gronant	11 th July	Gronant

Breeding information as follows: GWENT: No confirmed breeding records but reeling birds

heard at 6 sites, both coastal and inland in NW; E. GLAMORGAN: Reeling males at 7 sites; GOWER: 1-2 pairs bred at Oxwich NNR and heard at 9+ other sites; CARMARTHEN: Singles between April and June at Llangain, Pembrey Burrows, Llyshendy, Pembrey Harbour, Llyn Llech Owain, Penclacwydd and Mynydd Ystyfflau-carn and three at Tywyn Bach, Pwll and Llyn Llech Owain; CEREDIGION: Reported during the breeding season at many localities; BRECON: Reeling birds at 9 sites and fledged young seen at The Cwm in late summer; MONTGOMERY: Reported from 5 sites; MEIRIONNYDD: Heard at 11 sites during May and June; CAERNARFON: Two in Nant Ffrancon and territories in Coed Gwydyr and at Plas Maenan, with single birds recorded at 16 other sites; ANGLESEY: Heard at 9 sites including Cemlyn, Valley Wetlands (4 reeling birds on 26th April), Malltraeth (7 on 17th April) and Cors Goch (three on 26th April).

MELODIOUS WARBLER *Hippolais polyglotta*

TELOR PER

(A) A scarce but regular migrant, on WRP list.

PEMBROKE: One on Skokholm on 15th May; BRECON: One heard and seen at Danygraig Isaf, Heol Senni from 21st to 23rd June was the first in the county.

2014: ANGLESEY: One at South Stack on 31st Aug.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

TELOR YR HESG

(C) A locally distributed summer visitor, numerous in some sites, increasing; plentiful passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	876
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	229

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	8 th April	Peterstone Lakes G.C.	19 th Sept	NWR Uskmouth and P Gout
E. GLAMORGAN	8 th April	Kenfig NNR	20 th Sept	Cardiff Bay WR
GOWER	11 th April	Staffal Haegr	12 th Oct	Mewslade Valley
CARMARTHEN	15 th April	Penclacwydd	2 nd Aug	Kidwelly Marsh
PEMBROKE	17 th April	Teifi Marshes	25 th Sept	Skomer
CEREDIGION	17 th April	Tanybwllch		
BRECON	24 th April	Llangasty	8 th Oct	Llangasty
RADNOR	14 th April	Rhosgoch	20 th Sept	Rhosgoch
MONTGOMERY	19 th March	Upper Dyfi estuary	30 th Aug	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	28 th April	Morfa Dyffryn	13 th Sept	Ynys
CAERNARFON	15 th April	Bardsey	17 th Sept	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	15 th April	Cemlyn	27 th Sept	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	14 th April	RSPB Conwy	15 th Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	15 th April	Rhuddlan	29 th July	Gronant

GWENT: Most records from NWR Uskmouth but birds heard at 8 other sites. Between late July and early Sept 296 birds were trapped and ringed at Uskmouth; E GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at Tirfounder Flood Plains, Cardiff Bay and Aberthaw West and possible at 8 other locations; GOWER: Bred at Oxwich NNR, Llanrhidian Marsh, Swansea Vale, Crymlyn Bog, Pant-y-Sais Fen, Brunel reedbed and probably at Tir John Pond. In total 145 birds were caught in 2015 by Gower Ringing Group; CARMARTHEN: During the breeding season a count at Penclacwydd produced 27 on 27th April but 9 singing males heard later in the breeding season; PEMBROKE: 40 territories on Skomer; BRECON: Only three territories at both Llangasty and at Y Gors, two east of Llangasty Church and singles near Sheephouse and Onllwyn, suggested continued decline; RADNOR: Breeding numbers well down; MONTGOMERY: Reported from the four main reedbed sites at Dyfi Estuary, Dolydd Hafren, Llyn Coed y Dinas and Pwll Penarth and a singing male at Fan Pool near Llanidloes; CAERNARFON: Bred at Morfa Aber (two pairs), Morfa Madryn (up to 5) and Llandrillo-yn-rhos with probable breeding at Morfa Conwy and Lôn Cob Bach, Pwllheli (4-5). Singing birds at 10 other sites. Five pairs bred on Bardsey; ANGLESEY: 8 territorial males at Cemlyn.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

TELOR Y CYRS

(C) Local summer visitor, breeding in reedbeds in many counties, increasing; scarce passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	805
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	154

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	21 st March	NWR Uskmouth	3 rd Oct	NWR Uskmouth
E. GLAMORGAN	20 th March	Parc Slip NR	1 st Oct	Kenfig Pool
GOWER	13 th April	Margam	3 rd Oct	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	14 th April	Machynys Golf Course	16 th Aug	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	17 th April	Skokholm	29 th Sept	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	16 th April	Pen Dinas, Aberystwyth	18 th Oct	Glandwr
BRECON	14 th April	Ty Mawr, Llangorse Lake	4 th Sept	Llangasty, Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	15 th April	Llanbwchllyn	17 th Sept	Llanbwchllyn
MONTGOMERY	19 th April	Dolydd Hafren	15 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	10 th May	Ynys		
CAERNARFON	13 th April	Bardsey	1 st Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	16 th April	Malltraeth		
DENBIGH	14 th April	RSPB Conwy	16 th Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	26 th April	Shotton Steelworks	6 th Sept	Shotton Steelworks

The record of one at Llanbwchllyn RADNOR on 15th April was the earliest ever here.

GWENT: The main stronghold were the reed-beds at NWR Uskmouth where 15 or 16 birds

were heard from April to July but birds occurred at six other coastal sites and also inland at Llandegfedd Reservoir. Breeding was confirmed at Sluice Farm and at Uskmouth. From July to early Sept 264 birds were trapped and ringed at NWR Uskmouth with a catch of 75 on 16th Aug; E GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at Parc Taf Bargoed Lakes and Cosmeston CP, probable at Ely River Trail, east of Leckwith Hill and Forest Farm / Glamorgan Canal and possible at a further 22 locations, mostly in the south of the recording area but included Tirfounder Fields in the north; GOWER: Bred at Oxwich NNR, Crymlyn Bog (2prs), Tir John Pond, Baglan Energy Park and probably bred at Llangennith Moors, Crymlyn Burrows, Pant-y-Sais Fen, Brunel reedbed, Baglan Pool, Port Talbot Docks/Harbour and R. Kenfig Estuary. The Gower Ringing Group trapped 159 birds at Oxwich in 2015; CARMARTHEN: During the breeding season there were 24 singing males at Penclacwydd; CEREDIGION: Breeding records from Teifi marshes, Cors Fochno/Aberleri/Glandwr, Cors Caron and from RSPB Ynys-hir; BRECON: Only noted at Llangorse Lake; MONTGOMERY: Apart from a record from Llyn Mawr all records came from Cors Dyfi, Dolydd Hafren, Llyn Coed y Dinas and Pwll Penarth; CAERNARFON: Bred at Dolgarrog (7 territories in 0.5km), Rhos-on-sea Golf Course, Plas Maenan, Aber Ogwen and at Lôn Cob Bach, Pwllheli (19-22 singing males), with probable breeding also at Morfa Madryn and singing birds at three other sites; DENBIGH: Over 70% of records came from RSPB Conwy where breeding presumed, bred also at Pensarn, Plas Maenan and Llandrillo-yn-Rhos; FLINT: 40 were caught at Shotton Steelworks with a maximum of 19 on 19th July. Other reports came from Rhyl brickworks (27 reports) and the Gronant/Talacre area and Rhydymwyn.

CEDAR WAXWING *Bombycilla garrulus*
(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

CYNFFON SIDAN Y CEDRWYDD

The remains of a predated bird found at Treginnis, PEMBROKE on 27th June were accepted by BBRC as the first record for the county and Wales.

NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

DELOR Y CNAU

(C) A widely distributed and fairly numerous resident of mature deciduous and mixed woodland throughout Wales. Increasing. Unusual on the Welsh islands. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2565
% of BirdTrack lists	14
No of 1km squares	881

GWENT: Breeding widely reported. 17 boxes in the Pontypool/Brynithel area were occupied, with an average of 3.29 chicks fledging per nest; E GLAMORGAN: The highest counts were 12 at Coed Cefn Fforest on 15th Feb, 15 there on 6th April and 13 on 9th April; GOWER: At Cwm Clydach study area, 14 pairs fledged 59 young, 4.2 young per box; MONTGOMERY: A record 24 nesting attempts in nest boxes at Lake Vyrnwy.

TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

DRINGWR BACH

(D) Resident. Widely distributed in woodlands throughout Wales. Increasing. Unusual on the islands. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	974
% of BirdTrack lists	5
No of 1km squares	487

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

DRYW

(C) Abundant resident, found from sea-level to 3,000ft. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	8544
% of BirdTrack lists	53
No of 1km squares	1884

GWENT: 24 birds in up to 3km at Penallt in March, 39 around Trellech heathland areas on 6th April, 23 in Loysey Wood on 5th May, 38 along 5km of the River Monnow between Tregate Bridge and south of Skenfrith on 19th March and 39 on this stretch on 1st May and 25 at Llandegfedd Reservoir on 12th April; E. GLAMORGAN: 20 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct and there was a notable record of 11 on Flat Holm on 1st Nov. 22 at Coed Cefn-fforest on 6th April, 29 at Cosmeston CP on 10th April, 16 at Creigiau on 10th April and 16 at Hendre Lake on 18th June; CARMARTHEN: 74 singing males at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: 52 territories on both Skokholm and Skomer and 36 on Ramsey; BRECON: 36 in SN8961 at Rhiwnant in the Elan Valley on 5th April, and 37 in the same square on 4th June; CAERNARFON: 186 territories on Bardsey, compared to 121 singing males here in 2014; DENBIGH: BBS counts included 22 at Llanarmon yn Ial on 10th April 20 at Craig Bron Bannog, Clocaenog Forest on 11th June and 20 at Berwyn on 12th June; FLINT: 20 at Bwlchgwyn on 10th June; 19 at Talacre on 4th June, 18 at Mold on 12th April, at Bwlchgwyn on 7th May and at Pantymwyn on 11th May.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

DRUDWEN

(C) A common resident; passage migrant and winter visitor in large numbers. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	4727
% of BirdTrack lists	28
No of 1km squares	1008

Large winter flocks (1,000+) in the first winter period were: GWENT: 3,000 roosted at Monkey Island on 7th Jan, 3,000 at St Bride's Wentlooge on 9th Jan and 13,000 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 17th Jan, with 6,000 there on 24th Jan; E GLAMORGAN: 2,000 at Cardiff Bay on 1st Jan, 3,000 there on 2nd, 1,000 at Llantrithyd on 10th Jan; CARMARTHEN: Notable roost counts were c.8,000 at Llangennech on 5th Feb and c.30,000 at Carmarthen on 24th Feb; MONTGOMERY: 2,000 at Dolydd Hafren on 15th Feb; MEIRIONNYDD:

c.10,000 roosted in a conifer plantation at Pont Gelyn, Llyn Celyn in Feb; CAERNARFON: 1,200 at Dinas Dinlle on 2nd March; ANGLESEY: Several thousand roosting at Llyn Bodgylched on 6th Jan, 3,000+ at Cors Erddreiniog on 22nd Jan and c.1,000 in Holyhead on 28th Feb; DENBIGH: 8,000 at RSPB Conwy on 4th Feb, 5,000 there on 28th Jan, 3rd, 14th and 16th Feb with 6,000 there on 25th Feb. Some 5,820 birds in 29 separate flocks flew towards the Conwy roost in the late afternoon of 14th Feb over Ffordd Las, Pentrefelin. The last record from Conwy was 5,000 on 12th March. Colwyn Bay pier roost had 1,500 on 5th Jan rising to 2,500 on 20th Jan. Inland, 1,000 at Cefn Meiriadog on 11th Feb; FLINT: 1,500 at Rhuddlan on 13th Feb.

In the second winter period: GWENT: 3,800 at Peterstone Gout on 28th Oct with 1,000 at Uskmouth on the same day and over 30,000 at Uskmouth on 11th Nov and 50,000 on 19th Nov; E GLAMORGAN: 2,000 at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 19th Oct, 1,000 at Wentloog level on 29th Oct, 7,000 at Cardiff Bay WR on 1st Nov, 1,000 at Cosmeston CP on 6th Nov, 1,539 at Caerlan Farm on 12th Nov, 1,700 at Llan/Lis Res. on 28th Dec and 4,263 at Llantwit Major on 31st Dec. GOWER: 8,000 congregating near roosts at the Oxwich reedbeds on 29th Oct and 5,000 over Llanrhidian on 2nd Nov; PEMBROKE: 250,000 in Minwear Wood on 7th Dec; CEREDIGION: Between 50,000 and 100,000 flying to a roost near Mydroilyn on 22nd Nov and 30,000 at Teifi marshes on 6th Dec with 20,000 there on 21st Sept; BRECON: At the Llangorse Lake roost numbers rose from 1,000 on 9th Oct to 50,000 on 28th and 100,000 by 11th Nov followed by a rapid decline; MONTGOMERY: 3,000 at Dolydd Hafren on 26th Dec and a roost of 2,000 on the Upper Dyfi Estuary on 19th Oct; CAERNARFON: 3,000 in the Aberdaron area on 9th Nov and 15,000 going to roost in reeds along the bank of Afon Erch near Pwllheli on 13th Nov. 1,2000 flew over Caerhun to the Tal-y-bont roost on 24th and 26th Nov and 4,250+ flew over Dolgarrog to this roost on 10th Dec. On Bardsey monthly maxima were 1,650 and 1,500 in Oct and Nov respectively; ANGLESEY: Up to 75,000 roosting in a reedbed near Parys Mountain, SW of Penysarn on 5th Dec, 5,000 at Malltraeth on 10th Oct, 20,000 there on 28th and 1,300 on 11th Nov, 5,000+ at Llyn Coron on 29th Oct and a roost of c.100,000 birds near Gadfa, Amlwch on 6th Dec; DENBIGH: The Colwyn Bay pier roost had 1,300 on 23rd Nov but no records from RSPB Conwy.

ROSE-COLOURED STARLING *Sturnus roseus*

DRUDWEN WRIDOG

(A) A rare visitor, most often recorded from Pembroke and Caernarfon. On WRP list.

A first-summer male at Aberavon seafront, GOWER from 31st July until 5th Aug.

2014: One at Llwyngwril, MEIRIONNYDD on 3rd June.

DIPPER *Cinclus cinclus*

BRONWEN Y DWR

(C) Common resident of fast flowing streams, particularly in hill areas. In winter some individuals move into the lowlands and also make use of estuaries, rocky coasts and lake edges. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	902
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	388

GWENT: Seen on streams and rivers throughout the county, notably on the Ebbw and Rhymney (4+ pairs), Afon Honddu (9+) and River Monnow (9+), lower Wye tributaries (5 pairs bred on the Angidy, 3 on the White Brook and two each on the Trothy and Redbrook) and on tributaries of the River Usk, such as the Gavenny, Berthin Brook and Cas Troggy Brook, as well as on the Nant Carn at Abercarn; E GLAMORGAN: Bred at 10 locations – on the R. Ogmore at Bridgend (2 sites) and Maesteg (2 sites), R. Taff at Forest Farm and Ynys Bridge, R. Garw at Bryngarw CP, R. Rhymney at Bargoed (2 sites) and R. Rhondda at Ferndale. Breeding was probable on R. Neath at Pontneddfechan, Parc Taf Bargoed lakes and the R. Ely at Pontyclun; GOWER: Bred at 14 sites and widely reported; CARMARTHEN: 22 nests monitored across the east of the county with 20 successful. The mean number of young raised was 4.67 (n=9); BRECON: 65 potential breeding sites with breeding confirmed at 20; MEIRIONNYDD: Widespread records, including 6 singing males along Afon Dyfrdwy in the Corwen area on 20th Jan; CAERNARFON: Widespread on many rivers in the breeding season; ANGLESEY: A bird on Afon Cefni at Llangefni on three dates in the spring; DENBIGH: 9 confirmed breeding records: at Llanddulas, nearby in the Dulas Valley, at Llanfair Dyffryn Ceiriog (two broods), at Colwyn Bay, at Pandy (two broods), at World's End, Ruabon Mountain, at Loggerheads CP, and at Llanfair Dyffryn Ceiriog; FLINT: Just one confirmed breeding record, at Greenfield Valley.

SWAINSON'S THRUSH *Catharus ustulatus*

CORFRONFRAITH

(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

One on Skokholm from 2nd to 10th June was the second record for PEMBROKE and for Wales, the first being on Skokholm in Oct 1967.

RING OUZEL *Turdus torquatus*

MWYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

(B) Summer visitor breeding in the uplands in decreasing numbers; passage migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	242
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	111

GWENT: Earliest record on 13th March above Newbridge with small numbers on spring and autumn passage, last record two at Pwll Du Quarry on 4th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: First

recorded on 27th March at Sker Farm with singles at several sites in April. In autumn recorded from 30th Sept, last record one at Lavernock WT Reserve on 3rd Nov; GOWER: Earliest record one at Cwm Clydach on 27th March. In autumn max 4 feeding on bilberries at Llyn Fach Craig y Llyn on 11th Oct; CARMARTHEN: Recorded only at Pâl y Cwrt, max 3 on 3rd Nov; PEMBROKE: Spring records between 3rd April and 1st May, max 4 on Skomer on 8th April. In autumn 1 - 2 from 30th Sept to 30th Oct, and a winter record of one at Bosherton on 16th Dec; CEREDIGION: Recorded from 11th April to 3rd May, max up to 10 at RSPB Ynys-hir 18th - 22nd April. Two on Pumlumon on 20th April; BRECON: A male that may have over-wintered fed in pasture with other thrushes at Abercynafon upstream of Talybont Reservoir, on 31st Jan – 3rd Feb and probably the same bird was re-located on 8th Feb at Penwyllt Quarry, a distance of 23 kms. A flock of 14 flew about Darren Lwyd in the Black Mountains in mid-April. 3 pairs attempted to breed at Craig Cerrig Gleisiad and breeding may also have occurred at Blaenbwch, Gospel Pass, Ystrad Quarry and in the Chwefru valley. There was an agitated pair on the Fan Hir scarp in late May and behaviour of another pair in the Senni valley suggested chicks were present; MONTGOMERY: The first confirmed breeding record in the county for a number of years came from the Lake Glaslyn area where a pair successfully raised at least one brood. A report of a brief song heard at Lake Vyrnwy in May was tantalising; MEIRIONNYDD: The first arrivals were two at Cwm Prysor on 8th April followed by other singles, pairs or small groups at nine possible breeding sites in April and at eight sites in May. A pair with a well grown chick was seen at Moel Ysgyfarnogod, Rhinogs on 11th June and a male was observed feeding a juvenile on the quarry wall at Tal y Waenydd, Moelwyn on 16th June with the last record, of a male at Craig Ddrwg in the Rhinogs on 23rd June; CAERNARFON: A group of birds wintering in Nant Ffrancon where at least five, possibly six, birds were recorded regularly between 16th Jan and 16th Feb. There was also a male at the Dinorwig quarry on 31st Jan. Bardsey had one of its best spring passages for many years between 7th April and 1st May, peaking at 15 on 8th April. On the Great Orme regular between 9th April and 4th May, peaking at 20 on 10th April, 16 on the 11th and 12 on the 18th. Most breeding season records came from the Carneddau, with confirmed breeding above Llanbedr-y-cennin and at Cefn Cyfarwydd above Trefriw. Good numbers in the Anafon valley in April and several in the nearby Aber valley. Four were around Llyn Cowlyd and two at Bwlch-y-ddeufaen with singles in Camarnaint (Llanfairfechan), Cwm Caseg, Hafod-y-rhiw, near Llyn Eigiau, near Melynlllyn, Tal-y-llyn, Bwlch-y-ddeufaen and above Llanfairfechan. Several records of singles in Nant Ffrancon, but fewer records from the other ranges. In the Glyderau, a pair at the Dinorwig quarry on 16th April and singles on Glyder Fawr and in Cwm Idwal while in the Snowdon range in April/May there was one at Clogwyn Du, three on Lliwedd and one at Llyn Ffynnon-gwas and elsewhere, singles on Moel Siabod and at Aberglaslyn and two on Y Garn (Nantlle Ridge); ANGLESEY: 1-2 birds at several coastal sites in spring from 7th April and in autumn to 28th Oct; DENBIGH: Recorded from 8th April. No records of confirmed breeding but a male and female (possibly two pairs) were at Llyn Lluncaws in the Berwyn on 4th May; FLINT: Two records, 3 at Penycloddiau on 16th April and 2 there on 26th April.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

MWYALCHEN

(C) Abundant breeding resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	11197
% of BirdTrack lists	67
No of 1km squares	2048

Large counts (30+) were: GWENT: 65 at Peterstone Gout on 3rd Jan, 30 at Newport Wetlands on 2nd Jan, 36 at Llandeenny on 21st Jan, 35 at Upper Llanover on 24th April and 31 at Llandegfedd Res on 1st Nov; E GLAMORGAN: In the first winter period 36 at Hendre Lake on 21st Jan and 40 at Forest Farm Country Park on 21st Feb. In the autumn and second winter period there were 35 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct, 50 at Parc Tredelerch on 9th Oct, 36 at Kenfig Pool and 45 at Pant-yr-Awel, Ogwr Fawr on 26th Oct and 30 at Forest Farm on 1st Nov; GOWER: 35 at Moorlake, Llanmadoc, on 28th Oct; CARMARTHEN: 26 singing males at Penclacwydd during the breeding season with c.50 here on 29th Oct; PEMBROKE: 121 over Skokholm on 2nd Nov; BRECON: 30 on Dolygaer causeway on 2nd Feb, and 38 on an 8km walk in the Brynich/Pencelli area on 2nd March. On 15th Oct 50 flew into Bronllys village and there was a flock of 30 at Llangasty on 23rd Nov; MONTGOMERY: c.40 at Dolydd Hafren on 8th Feb and 18th Oct; CAERNARFON: 14 pairs bred on Bardsey. Max 80 at the Little Orme in Oct and on Bardsey in Nov; ANGLESEY: 33 at South Stack on 19th Oct and 36 here on 27th Oct; DENBIGH: In the first winter period 40 at Towyn on 25th Jan. The highest BBS counts were 34 at Rhos, Gellifor on 13th April with 30 there on 30th June; FLINT: The highest BBS count was 35 at Buckley on 15th May.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

SOCAN EIRA

(C) A winter visitor and passage migrant in variable numbers; often abundant. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	721
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	333

Table of latest and earliest reports in each county:

	Latest	Site		Earliest	Site
GWENT	3 rd April	Brynmaur		12 th Oct	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	24 th April	Kenfig Saltmarsh		22 nd Oct	Pant Yr Awel, Ogwr Fawr
GOWER	24 th April	Kenfig River mouth		14 th Oct	Cwm Ivy
CARMARTHEN	17 th March	Pembrey		8 th Oct	Pâl y Cwrt
PEMBROKE	22 nd April	Pickle Wood		15 th Oct	Ramsey
CEREDIGION	6 th April			15 th Oct	
BRECON	8 th April	Llanwrthwl		27 th Sept	Llanwrthwl
MONTGOMERY	4 th April	Llyn Clywedog		4 th Oct	Lake Vyrnwy
MEIRIONNYDD	22 nd April	Trawscoed		14 th Oct	Groeslwyd
CAERNARFON	23 rd May	Bardsey		10 th Oct	Little Orme
ANGLESEY	13 th June	South Stack		11 th Oct	Malltraeth

DENBIGH	1 st April	Fenn's Moss			
FLINT	16 th April	Rhyl brickworks		11 th Oct	Cilcain

High counts (120+) in the first winter period: GWENT: 120 near Usk on 17th Jan; BRECON: 130 at Llanfrynach on 2nd March; BRECON: 120 on Mynydd Bwlch-y-groes on 3rd Jan; MONTGOMERY: 200+ at Dolydd Hafren on 4th Jan; CAERNARFON: 1,200 in the lower Conwy valley on 18th Jan; DENBIGH: 200 at Gresford on 6th Jan, 150 at Holt on 25th Jan and 120 at Hirwaun, Gellifor on 23rd March; FLINT: 150 at Llyn Helyg on 4th Jan.

A bird trapped on Bardsey, CAERNARFON on 23rd May was a female with a fully vascularised brood patch, suggesting that it had attempted to breed somewhere in the UK.

In the second winter period: GWENT: 541 at Pen-y-lan and 3,050 at Peterstone Wentlooge on passage from 1st to 3rd Nov but thereafter low counts; E GLAMORGAN: 270 at Blaen Cadlan Uchaf on 26th Oct, 2,000 on 1st Nov at Lavernock Pt., 4,500 there on 2nd Nov and 1,500 on 12th, also 720 and 656 over Cardiff Barrage North on 2nd and 3rd Nov; CARMARTHEN: c.200 at Cwm Pedol, Ffarmers, on 17th Oct and c.250 at Pâl y Cwrt on 22nd Oct, PEMBROKE: 500 at Ty Rhyg on 16th Oct, 400 at Carn Ingli on 25th Oct, 200+ flying over Martletwy on 23rd Oct and 120+ on Dinas Mountain on 11th Dec; CEREDIGION: 130 at Cors Caron in Dec; BRECON: 600 from the west to Llanwrthwl on 17th Oct, 200 flying east over Plasygors on 20th Oct, 215 flying south in one hour over Penwyllt and 200 at Gamrhiw on 29th Oct and 200 through Llaneglwys Wood on 6th Nov. 200 at Cwm Llia on 8th Dec and 150 at Coldbrook on 11th Dec; MONTGOMERY: 200+ at Dolydd Hafren on 22nd Nov; MEIRIONNYDD: A flock of 500 below the summit of Arenig Fawr on 20th Oct; CAERNARFON: 281+ on Bardsey on 17th Oct, 140 here on 2nd Nov; DENBIGH: 300 at Hafoty Sion Llwyd, Llyn Brenig on 20th Oct.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

BRONFRAITH

(D) A widely distributed and fairly common resident, formerly abundant. Increasing. Winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	4799
% of BirdTrack lists	29
No of 1km squares	1267

Counts of 30+ were: E. GLAMORGAN: 50 at Forest Farm on 3rd Oct; PEMBROKE: 52 on Skokholm on 4th Nov; MONTGOMERY: 30 at Dolydd Hafren on 25th Oct; CAERNARFON: 30 on the Little Orme on 12th Oct.

REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

COCH DAN-ADAIN

(C) An abundant winter visitor and passage migrant; particularly numerous in severe winters. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1468
% of BirdTrack lists	8
No of 1km squares	504

Table of latest and earliest reports in each county:

	Latest	Site		Earliest	Site
GWENT	9 th April	Treowen		30 th Sept	Osbaston
E. GLAMORGAN	6 th April	Mynydd Bach, Maesteg		28 th Sept	Nottage
GOWER	26 th March	Margam rail sidings		2 nd Oct	Swansea Vale
CARMARTHEN	14 th March	Bishop's Pond, Abergwili		12 th Oct	Ffarmers
PEMBROKE	3 rd April	Skokholm		7 th Oct	Temple Druid West
CEREDIGION	6 th April			3 rd Oct	
BRECON	4 th April	Llanhamlach		27 th Sept	Llanwrthwl
MONTGOMERY	4 th April	Llyn Clywedog		8 th Oct	Llyn Hir, Lake Vyrnwy
MEIRIONNYDD	20 th March	Melin y Wig		3 rd Oct	Rhiwbryfdir
CAERNARFON	9 th April	Little Orme		28 th Sept	Llandudno
ANGLESEY	8 th April	Llanfair yng Nghornwy		10 th Oct	Mynydd Bodafon
DENBIGH	2 nd April	Nant y Glyn		1 st Oct	Bronbannog, Clocaenog
FLINT	19 th April	Connah's Quay		10 th Oct	Rhuddlan

Large counts (120+) in the first winter period included: GWENT: 300+ at Catbrook and 130 at Uskmouth on 30th Jan, 120 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 1st March; E GLAMORGAN: 120 at Forest Farm on 4th Jan, 125 at Cardiff Riding School on 10th Jan and 273 there on 21st Jan and 120 at Cosmeston CP on 28th Jan; GOWER: c.180 over Margam Park on 5th Feb; PEMBROKE: 150 at Bosherton on 30th Jan; BRECON: 140 at Crickhowell on 7th Jan, 130 at Gwernyfed on 23rd Jan, MONTGOMERY: 200 at Dolydd Hafren on 18th Jan and 200 at Trewern on 10th Feb, CAERNARFON: 850 in the lower Conwy valley on 1st Jan; DENBIGH: 200 at Cefn Meiriadog on 26th Feb and 175 at St Asaph Business Park on 27th Jan.

In the 2nd winter period: GWENT: 2,584 at Pen-y-lan on 26th Oct, 120 in Newport on 27th and 592 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 2nd Nov but no high counts thereafter; E GLAMORGAN 253 at Kenfig Pool on 14th Oct, 400 at Lavernock Pt on 1st Nov, 3,500 at Lavernock Pt on 2nd Nov, 1,750 over Cardiff Barrage North on 3rd Nov and 500 at Candleston on 8th Dec; GOWER: 167 at Ynysforgan on 15th Oct, 122 at Swansea Vale on 27th and 1,500+ flying SE over Overton on 31st Oct and then 147 at Swansea Vale on 20th Nov; CARMARTHEN: 165 flying over Capel Seion on 15th Oct and 1,000+ along the Heart of Wales railway line between Hendy and Llandovery on 22nd Oct; BRECON: 500 on 15th Oct at Llangasty and 200 at Llanwrthwl on 17th Oct; MONTGOMERY: 150+ at Dolydd Hafren on 20th Dec; MEIRIONNYDD: 142 at Penrhyndeudraeth on 19th Oct; CAERNARFON: 201 on Bardsey on 17th Oct with 143 there on 18th and 150 on 2nd Nov; ANGLESEY: 424 at South Stack on 17th Oct; DENBIGH: 200 at Tyddyn Bartley on 16th Dec; FLINT: 143 at Pantymwyn on 20th Oct and 152 at Hendre on 30th Oct.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

BRYCH Y COED

(C) A fairly common resident; many young birds emigrate in their first autumn. Wales
Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2582
% of BirdTrack lists	15
No of 1km squares	921

Largest flocks (20+) were: GWENT: 21 at Peterstone Gout on 20th Dec; E GLAMORGAN: 31 at Tram Road Side, Quaker's Yard, on 8th July, 22 at Cosmeston CP on 1st Aug, 26 at Tirfounder Fields on 8th Aug, 30 at Coed Craig Ruperra on 16th Sept, 21 at Lavernock Pt on 19th Sept and 25 at Darren Fawr south on 1st Oct; GOWER: 25 at Margam Park on 12th Sept, 29 near Cheriton seawall on 29th Sept, 34 over Cwm Maelog Margam on 8th Nov and 25 at Langland on 19th Nov; CARMARTHEN: A post-breeding flock of 25 at Llanedi on 16th July; BRECON: 35 at Ffordd Fawr on 17th Jan and 80 at Gamrhiw on 8th Oct; MONTGOMERY: c.50 west of Llanidloes on 31st July; CAERNARFON: 20 in the Aber and Anafon valleys on 14th July, 32 in the Llanbedr-y-cennin area on 7th Sept and 50 in Nant Ffrancon on 30th Aug.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

GWYBEDOG MANNOG

(C) Once a common summer visitor, now appears to be declining; passage migrant, May and August / September. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	305
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	205

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th May	Llanellen and NWR	23 rd Sept	West Pill
E. GLAMORGAN	1 st May	Ferndale	2 nd Oct	Dunraven & Ogmere-by Sea
GOWER	15 th April	Cwmavon	30 th Sept	
CARMARTHEN	7 th May	Penclacwydd	15 th Sept	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	22 nd April	Skomer & St David's Head	3 rd Oct	St Brides
CEREDIGION	20 th April	Pen Dinas, Aberystwyth	19 th Sept	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	1 st May	Sennybridge	28 th Sept	Brecon STW
RADNOR	7 th May	Newbridge	18 th Sept	Knighton
MONTGOMERY	1 st May	Lake Vyrnwy	22 nd Sept	Llanfyllin
MEIRIONNYDD	7 th May	Ynysmaengwyn	13 th Aug	Harlech
CAERNARFON	19 th April	Bardsey	2 nd Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	9 th May	3 sites	19 th Sept	Near South Stack
DENBIGH	16 th May	Denbigh	13 th Sept	Pentrefelin,
FLINT	21 st May	Padeswood	13 th Sept	Garden City

GWENT: 38 reports from 24 sites but just 4 breeding records, at Slade Wood, Blaenserchan, Ysgyryd Fach and Dingestow Court; E GLAMORGAN: 97 reports from 52 locations with confirmed breeding at Llandow and Ferndale, a possible family party at Pant yr Awel, Ogwr Fawr, and probable breeding at two other sites; GOWER: Bred at 5 sites and probably bred at one other site; CARMARTHEN: Two breeding records with adults and

juveniles seen at Dinas on 16th July and at Llanedi on 24th July; CEREDIGION: Recorded from 6 localities; BRECON: 24 territories/pairs identified across the county, with improved breeding success thought likely; RADNOR: A big increase in breeding numbers reported; MEIRIONNYDD: Records from 18 sites in the breeding season and confirmed breeding at Penmaendyfi Chalet Cwrt on 20th July, at Harlech Forestry on 13th Aug and at Llyn Celyn on 13th Sept. CAERNARFON: One on Bardsey on 19th April was the earliest ever for the county and the earliest in the UK in spring 2015. Spring passage on Bardsey peaked at 25 on 13th and 23rd May and in the autumn of 34 on 14th Aug. Confirmed or probable nesting was reported at five sites with single birds at a further 11 sites; DENBIGH: Only two records of confirmed breeding, at Hafodty and Pandy but pairs at World's End, Ruabon Mountain, Llansilin and Holt; FLINT: One record of confirmed breeding, at Bodfari.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula*

ROBIN GOCH

(C) A common and widespread resident in all counties and a passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	10751
% of BirdTrack lists	65
No of 1km squares	1985

Large counts (20+) were: GWENT: 20 to 30 singing birds from Jan to March on 2-3km walks at Penallt but on 14th Feb 53 were heard. Up to 26 were reported from walks from Pentre Lane to Ty Coch Canal and up to 43 on the Trellech heathlands Garden ringing at Penallt resulted in 19 birds caught between Jan and March, some being re-traps from previous winters; E GLAMORGAN: 22 at Cardiff Bay on 14th Jan, 30 at Forest Farm on 21st Feb, 22 at Cosmeston CP on 1st April, 58 in Cardiff Bay on 17th Sept, 35 at Tirfounder Fields on 23rd Sept, 40 at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct, 46 at Kenfig Pool on 9th Oct, 28 at Cosmeston CP on 14th Oct and 20 at Forest Farm and 17 at Flat Holm on 1st Nov; GOWER: 21 at Swansea Vale E. on 8th Feb and 22 at Penllergaer Valley Wood on 6th April; CARMARTHEN: During the breeding season 32 singing males at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: 91 on Skokholm on 1st Oct and 60+ wintered around St David's Head; BRECON: 26, of which 20 were in song, on 2nd March along 8km of towpath and lane in the Brynich/Pencelli area and 21 birds mostly in song, across 3 sq km of forestry at Mynydd Wysg; CAERNARFON: 20 on the Little Orme on 2nd and 23rd Oct and 21 at Morfa Madryn on 4th May. Max 64 on Bardsey in Oct; DENBIGH: 23 at RSPB Conwy on 12th Oct; FLINT: The highest count in the first winter period was 25 at Hope in early Feb and on BBS walks: 26 at Mold on 12th April.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

EOS

(A) Scarce passage visitor, on WRP list.

The only accepted record was one trapped on Skokholm, PEMBROKE on 27th April.

2013: RADNOR: A singing male at Bwlch y Sarnau on 7th May.

RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL *Tarsiger cyanurus*

CYNFFONLAS YSTLYSGOCH

(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

CAERNARFON: An immature bird was found late on 25th Oct on Bardsey, but not seen subsequently. This is the second record for the island and the county, and the third for Wales.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva*

GWYBEDOG BRONGOCH

(A) Rare vagrant, on WRP list.

The only accepted records were: in PEMBROKE a single first winter on Skomer on 3rd Oct and another first winter bird on Skokholm on 6th Oct and in CAERNARFON one trapped and ringed on 5th June on Bardsey, the 12th spring record for the island, and a 1st calendar year bird on the Great Orme on 28th-29th Sept.

PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*

GWYBEDOG BRITH

(C) A common but declining summer visitor in most mainland counties, rare on Anglesey. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	407
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	235

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th April	NWR Uskmouth	28 th Aug	Llanthony Priory
E. GLAMORGAN	19 th April	Cwm Nant Gwyn, Maesteg	15 th Aug	Coed Cefn-fforest
GOWER	21 st April	Llanmadoc	8 th Oct	Pitton
CARMARTHEN	12 th April	Dinas		
PEMBROKE	9 th April	Skomer	10 th Oct	St David's Head
CEREDIGION	9 th April	RSPB Ynys-hir	5 th Sept	Teifi Marshes
BRECON	10 th April	Crownant Fawr & The Cwm	31 st Aug	Llawr-y-Dolau, MOD Eppynt
RADNOR	9 th April	Clyro	16 th Sept	Elan Valley
MONTGOMERY	10 th April	Llanidloes		
MEIRIONNYDD	10 th April	Groeslwyd	13 th Aug	Harlech
CAERNARFON	9 th April	Pensychnant	8 th Oct	Bardsey
DENBIGH	11 th April	Glyn Arthur	2 nd Aug	Bronbannog, Clocaenog For.
FLINT	26 th April	Penycloddiau	15 th July	Bagillt

GWENT: Just eight reports with birds on breeding territories in St Mary's Vale and at Glan y Nant, near Blackwood and breeding confirmed at Strawberry Wood where four, possibly five, nest-boxes were occupied by 17th May and at Penallt where three broods were ringed in boxes at Old Church Wood, Penallt; E GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding but a pair present at Cwm Nant Gwyn, Maesteg; GOWER: 27 pairs bred at Cwm Clydach and 23 of

these produced 120 fledged young; CARMARTHEN: 10 at Dinas on 18th April and 12 there on 22nd April. Of the 44 nests in boxes in the NE of the county, 33 were successful, 6 failed and in five the outcome was unsuccessful. 8 pairs bred in nest boxes at Abbey Woods, Whitland; PEMBROKE: Two pairs bred at Ffyone Wood, at the Gwaun Valley nest box scheme and at Llanychaer; BRECON: At least 24 males held territories or bred; MONTGOMERY: Birds in boxes at Lake Vyrnwy had poor breeding success; MEIRIONNYDD: 1-2 pairs at 31 sites with larger colonies of up to eight pairs at eight more sites whilst at Dolgellau (Coed y Parc) and Abergwynant (Garth Gell, Gribin, Taldir, Y Waen) 44 broods were ringed in 2015; CAERNARFON: Confirmed breeding at Rowen, Gwydyr forest, Pensychnant and Parc yr Ocar, Mynydd Llandegai, also in 28 boxes at Coedydd Aber. Birds were present at another 24 sites; ANGLESEY: One at Carmel Head on 17th Oct; DENBIGH: 16 at Glyn Arthur on 25th April and 16 at Bryn Derwen on 17th June. Records of confirmed breeding from Bontuchel, Loggerheads CP, Coed Hafod and Llanfair Talhaiarn. Nestlings were also ringed at Coed Nantddu (2), Clocaenog,(7), at Coed Nantddu , near Llanfair Talhaiarn (56), at Glyn Arthur (68) and at Prion (120) with nests monitored too at Llwynmawr. Pandy, Llewesog Hall, Dinbren Isaf and in the Llangollen area; FLINT: Confirmed breeding at Bagillt and at Coed y Felin.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros*

TINGOCH DU

(C) Spring and autumn passage migrant. Winter visitor in small numbers. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	321
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	77

The only breeding record was at a site in DENBIGH, where a brood (possibly a second brood) of five nestlings was ringed at the same site where birds bred in 2014.

Other records were: GWENT: One in Newport in Jan and one in the Sudbrook area in March; E. GLAMORGAN: All first winter period records from Penarth marina or the nearby Cardiff Bay Barrage, where max 5 from 1st Jan, with the last report on 22nd March. Fewer reports in the second winter period, mostly from the Penarth Marina / Cardiff Bay Barrage area from 1st Nov to 9th Dec, max 3 in Penarth Marina on 22nd Nov. Elsewhere, singles at Cwm Marcross and at Ogmore-by Sea / Southerndown; GOWER: Singles in the first winter period at Fall Bay, Swansea Univ. Campus and Swansea City Centre. In the second winter period, singles at Gorseinon, Rhossili coastguard, Swansea City Centre, at a Brynmill garden and near Port Talbot Town Centre; CARMARTHEN: In the early winter period single females at two locations in Llanelli. In autumn, singles at Mynydd Llanllwni, Ffairfach and County Hall, Carmarthen; PEMBROKE: Regular records of 1-2 birds in March and April at Martins Haven, Ramsey, Skokholm and Skomer. One on Ramsey on 9th July. In autumn, 1-2 birds at Nevern Est, Strumble Head, St. David's Head, Narberth, Marloes Mere, West Angle and Ramsey. On Skokholm max 3 on 1st Nov and on Skomer, max 3 on 31st Oct and 3rd Nov. In Dec, singles at Haverfordwest, Crymych, Cwm Yr Eglwys and St Brides; CEREDIGION: Wintering birds at Aberystwyth from 1st Jan to 16th March with two

males present (one ringed) and one female, and again 6th Nov to the end of the year with the ringed male and a female present. The ringed male was first ringed in 2010 setting a new BTO longevity record. Singles at Cwm Tydu in Feb and at Penygraig, Aberystwyth on 27th May, then in the second winter period at Plas Treflyn, near Tregaron, at Ynyslas and at New Quay; BRECON: A 1st-year male at St. John's Court, Brecon on 19th-21st Oct; MONTGOMERY: A female/juvenile bird just below the Rhiwargor waterfall at Lake Vyrnwy on 19th Sept was the first confirmed county record since 2006; MEIRIONNYDD: A female at Penllyn, Tywyn, on 13th Nov; CAERNARFON: Regular records of 1-2 birds on Bardsey between 14th March and 14th June, with singles at Penrhynside and on the Great Orme. In the second part of the year, many records from the Little Orme, max 4 on 20th Dec. Single birds on the Great Orme, Caernarfon, Criccieth and Tremadog, with max 3 on Bardsey on 3rd-4th Nov; ANGLESEY: In the first winter period, singles at Holyhead and South Stack with the last record at Point Lynas on 23rd April. In the second half of the year, one at South Stack 30th Aug-9th Sept, followed by one at Mynydd Bodafon and 1-2 at Point Lynas; DENBIGH: In spring, one at Llanddulas on 15th March and one at RSPB Conwy on 5th May. In the second winter period, one at Llandrillo yn Rhos in Dec.

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

TINGOCH

(C) A numerous breeding species in deciduous woodland and fridd in many parts of upland Wales. Locally common elsewhere; scarce on Anglesey and Pembroke. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	836
% of BirdTrack lists	4
No of 1km squares	460

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th April	Collister Pill	7 th Nov	Goldcliff Point
E. GLAMORGAN	10 th April	Cardiff Bay WR	27 th Sept	Wernddu
GOWER	10 th April	Mynydd y Gaer	25 th Oct	Llanmadoc
CARMARTHEN	12 th April	Cwrt y Cadno	13 th Nov	Whitland
PEMBROKE	8 th April	Skokholm	1 st Oct	Ramsey
CEREDIGION	7 th April	Ystumtuen	5 th Sept	Devil's Bridge
BRECON	11 th April	Llangorse Lake; Llanwrtyd Wells	12 th Sept	Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	4 th April	Elan Valley	26 th Sept	Painscastle
MONTGOMERY	23 rd March*	Cwmbiga	15 th Oct	Llandyssil
MEIRIONNYDD	10 th April	Groeslwyd	1 st Sept	Caerau Uchaf
CAERNARFON	9 th April	Bardsey	8 th Oct	Great Orme
ANGLESEY	16 th April	Llyn Alaw	26 th Sept	South Stack
DENBIGH	15 th April	Penycae	8 th Sept	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	14 th April	Coed y Felin, Hendre	12 th Sept	Talacre

* See below.

CARMARTHEN: 10 were at Dinefwr Park on 16th May and only 12 nests were found in a study area in the north east of the county c.f. 21 nests in 2014; MONTGOMERY: An unusual record from the Upper Dyfi Estuary where a male was present between 7th Jan and 16th March and was singing on 20th Feb; DENBIGH: 11 were noted at Tregeiriog on 14th June; FLINT: 12 at Penycloddiau on 15th May.

2014: There was one at Hendre Lake, E GLAMORGAN on 23rd Sept.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

CREC YR EITHIN

(C) Summer breeding visitor; now predominantly a species of upland areas. Declining. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	270
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	177

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	13 th April	Newport Wetland Reserve		6 th Oct	West Pill
E. GLAMORGAN	16 th April	Beili Helyg and Cwm Cadlan		12 th Oct	Dunraven and Flat Holm
GOWER	19 th April	Llangennith Moors		3 rd Oct	
CARMARTHEN	15 th June	Near Dinas		6 th Sept	Ginst Point
PEMBROKE	22 nd April	Skokholm		14 th Oct	Skomer
CEREDIGION	16 th April	Cwmystwyth		17 th Sept	Leri
BRECON	17 th April	Llanwrthwl		27 th Sept	Gamrhiw
RADNOR	25 th April	Aberedw		9 th Oct	The Begwyns
MONTGOMERY	15 th April	Lake Vyrnwy		15 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	22 nd April	Rhiwaedrog is afon, Pale		6 th Sept	Trawsnant, Migneint
CAERNARFON	17 th April	3 sites		13 th Oct	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	16 th April	Malltraeth Marsh		1 st Nov	Henborth
DENBIGH	25 th April	Esclusham Mountain		6 th Sept	Trawsnant, Migneint
FLINT	2 nd April	Gronant		13 th Sept	Connah's Quay

GWENT: Several pairs on The Bloreng and one pair at Hafod Farm, Brynmawr; E GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding reports but breeding suspected at Gelligaer and pairs seen in suitable breeding habitat in Dare Country Park, Craig Fargoed and Llanwonno during May and three birds at Mynydd-y-glog in early June; GOWER: Only one breeding site known; CARMARTHEN: The only breeding season records were two singing males at Mynydd Pencarreg on 16th June, a female at Nant Cwmtawel on 2nd July and a male at Mynydd Pencarreg on 9th July; BRECON: At least 23 territories noted; RADNOR: Breeding numbers noticeably up; MEIRIONNYDD: Widespread reports in the breeding season with confirmed breeding at Moel Fferna and at Foel Frech, Migneint;

CAERNARFON: Breeding confirmed or probable at Cefn Cyfarwydd above Trefriw, at Drws-y-coed and at Crimpiau above Capel Curig. Pairs or singing males at 7+ other sites; DENBIGH: One record of confirmed breeding at Llyn Bran, Clocaenog Forest, but four juveniles at Cerrigellgwm on 18th July may have been raised locally; FLINT: Of 17 records only three were from possible breeding areas: Penycloddiau, Garth, Cilcain and Afonwen, with the remaining 14 records all from the coast, mostly from Deeside.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquatus*

CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

(C) Breeding resident, locally common in coastal areas and spreading inland. Increasing. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2252
% of BirdTrack lists	12
No of 1km squares	781

GWENT: Breeding records were down by 50% on 2014. Breeding was confirmed at Broad Meend, Hafod Farm, Brynmawr, Blaenavon and Aberbargoed. Breeding probably also occurred on Mynydd Llangatwg, at Pen-y-Fan Pond, Waun Afon bog, The Bloreng and Silent Valley; E GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at 20 sites. Large counts included 7 at Portobello, Ogmore Est on 27th Jan, 9 at Kenfig NNR on 13th March, 14 at Sker on 17th Aug; GOWER: 80 pairs bred at 47 localities, a further 21 pairs probably bred at 12 sites and 24 pairs noted at 23 other sites; CARMARTHEN: Bred at Mynydd Llanybydder (7 pairs), Mynydd Pencarreg (4), Mynydd Figyn, Cynnant (1), Brechfa Forest (2), Witchett Pool, Pâl y Cwrt (2), Garn Goch, Gweunydd Cochion, Pembrey Burrows (3) and Pembrey Harbour; CEREDIGION: Breeding pairs were widely reported along the coast and inland 52 were seen in a field near the Aberleri boatyard on 14th Sept and 38 on 18th Sept; BRECON: 32+ territories/pairs noted; MEIRIONNYDD: Reports in the breeding season from at least 24 sites with at least 14 pairs on the Moelwyns; CAERNARFON: 12 territories on the northern, western and eastern sides of the Great Orme in May and 10 pairs bred on Bardsey. Breeding birds were widespread elsewhere; ANGLESEY: Pairs bred at Traeth Crigyll dunes, at Ty'n Ildiart, near Rhosneigr and at Cemlyn. Max count of 10 juveniles on 24th July (dispersing birds) at Cemlyn; DENBIGH: 6 records of confirmed breeding, at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, Llyn Brenig, Moel Famau (two sites) and Moel Maelogen; FLINT: Breeding was confirmed at Coed y Morfa, Prestatyn, at Barkby Beach, Prestatyn, at Gronant and at Halkyn.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

TINWEN Y GARN

(C) Summer visitor and passage migrant. Locally common, favouring upland areas with sheep-grazed turf. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1307
% of BirdTrack lists	6
No of 1km squares	551

Table of earliest and latest reports in each county:

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	10 th March	West Pill		24 th Oct	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	9 th March	Ogmore-by Sea		18 th Oct	Ty'n-y-Caeau
GOWER	14 th March	Baglan Bay		1 st Nov	Pennard Golf Course
CARMARTHEN	12 th March	Burry Port Beach		3 rd Nov	Pâl y Cwrt
PEMBROKE	8 th March	Skokholm & Ramsey		6 th Nov	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	10 th March	Tanybwllch		16 th Oct	Llanon
BRECON	14 th March	Garnlydan Quarry		20 th Oct	Blaen Onneu
RADNOR	14 th March	The Begwyns		2 nd Nov	The Begwyns
MONTGOMERY	19 th March	Llanbrynmair		15 th Sept	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	9 th March	Aberdyfi		3 rd Oct	Cadair Idris
CAERNARFON	8 th March	Little Orme		30 th Oct	Great Orme
ANGLESEY	14 th March	Penrhos CP		30 th Oct	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	18 th March	RSPB Conwy		8 th Oct	Towyn
FLINT	19 th March	Point of Ayr		21 st Oct	Walwen Marsh, Bagillt

GWENT: 10 were at Trefil Quarries on 5th April, rising to 21 on 10th and to 30 on 14th, with 12 remaining there in June. Breeding records came from Mynydd Llanhilleth, The Bloreng, Mynydd Llangatwg and Mynydd Manmoel, as well as Trefil; E.GLAMORGAN: 38 at Sker Farm on 21st April but only five confirmed breeding reports in the county. Post-breeding peaks were 12 between Rest Bay and Sker on 16th Sept and 14 on Flat Holm on 14th Oct; GOWER: Bred at 5 sites and probably bred at another; PEMBROKE: 127 on Skokholm on 23rd April, with a mainland max of 50+ on Dinas Mountain on 22nd April. 85 pairs bred on Ramsey. Max autumn count: 30+ at Stackpole Warren and Skomer on 16th Sept; CEREDIGION: A strong coastal passage in April with 100 in the Llanrhystud area on 9th and 50+ at Pen Dinas, Aberystwyth, on 16th; RADNOR: Breeding numbers down again; MEIRIONNYDD: 14 pairs at Morfa Dyffryn and five pairs by the airfield pond on 28th April, three pairs between Gelli Green track and bottom of Cwm Hirnant hill, South Berwyn on 8th May; possible breeding at 20 other mostly upland sites; CAERNARFON: Spring passage on Bardsey included 110 on 9th April, mainly of the nominate race. 35 pairs held territory on the island. The only mainland counts of 30+ were 30 on the Great Orme on 7th April with 40 here on 11th May and 30 at Wig on 13th Sept; DENBIGH: Just one record of confirmed breeding, at Oernant, Horseshoe Pass; FLINT: No breeding records, passage counts peaked at 20 at Rhuddlan on 6th May with 16 at Penycloddiau on 15th May.

Birds showing characteristics of the Greenland race *leucorhoa* were: GOWER: Two at Pwll-y-froga and 11 at nearby Wernhalog both on 4th May; CARMARTHEN: One at Pembrey Burrows on 13th May and one at Carn Pen-y-clogau, Mynydd Du on 9th Sept; PEMBROKE: 4 at the Gann on 16th April, singles on Skokholm on 11th - 12th April. Recorded on Skomer from 8th April to 16th May, numbers peaking at 14 on 19th April, five on 21st and six the following day. In autumn singles on Skokholm on 12th Sept and on Skomer on 22nd Aug, 16th Sept (30 "wheatears" recorded, mostly of this type), three on 1st Oct and one 4th Oct; CEREDIGION: A small passage in late April and May at coastal locations, with 10 'mostly Greenland' at Llanrhystud on 14th April the largest count; BRECON: Two males in the Black Mountains on 21st April, a male at Dinas Farm, Pengenffordd and another on Pen Trumau, both in the Black Mountains and singles with

other Wheatears at Fan Bwlch Chwyth on 1st May and on Cerrig Llwyd y Rhestr, Elenydd on 4th May; CAERNARFON: Birds passing through Bardsey in spring were considered to be mainly of this form after the middle of April, including most of the 135 birds on 19th April and the 112 on 22nd April. 2 at the Little Orme on 13th April, with 5 here on the 15th, and one in Nant Ffrancon on 23rd April. In autumn, 3 at the Little Orme on 21st Sept and one here on 6th Oct; ANGLESEY: Falls through May and early June included many 'Greenland' race birds.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis*

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

(C) Abundant breeding resident. Passage migrant and possible winter visitor in small numbers. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	7401
% of BirdTrack lists	45
No of 1km squares	1501

Notable counts were: E.GLAMORGAN: 18 singing males at Lavernock Pt on 25th Feb and 14 at Kenfig NNR on 22nd March, 40 birds at Lavernock Pt on 8th Oct and 22 at Kenfig Pool on 9th Oct, five on Flat Holm on 9th Aug and four there on 1st Nov; GOWER: At Oxwich, 50, including 29 juveniles, were caught; CARMARTHEN: 33 singing males at Penclacwydd in the breeding season and 24 at Penlan Uchaf on 2nd Feb with 19 there on 13th March; MONTGOMERY 20 at Dolydd Hafren on 5th April and 26 on 22nd Nov; CAERNARFON 20 territories on Bardsey. Max mainland count 20 on the Little Orme on 13th April; ANGLESEY: Up to 12 pairs bred at Cemlyn; FLINT: 20 at Marian Cwm on 6th April.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TO

(C) Resident, breeding throughout Wales in all counties. Not ubiquitous, however, and absent from many upland settlements. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5878
% of BirdTrack lists	35
No of 1km squares	1149

Large counts (70+) included: E. GLAMORGAN: 200 at Nottage Fields, Royal Porthcawl Golf Club and Rest Bay on 21st Aug and 70 at Lavernock on 30th Aug; GOWER: 70+ at Graig Goch Farm on 8th July; PEMBROKE: 110 at Llandigige on 17th Sept and 80 at West Hook Farm on 7th Sept; BRECON: 70 at Llanbeilin on 21st Nov; MONTGOMERY: Present in 91% of summer gardens; CAERNARFON: 90 at Penrhynside on 22nd Aug, 80 at Morfa Aber on 31st Aug, 80+ at Hafod Lane, Bangor, Aug – Dec and 120 at Aberdaron on 2nd Sept; DENBIGH: Maximum of 150+ at Towyn on 5th July; FLINT: 94 at Buckley on 15th May and 300+ near Rhuddlan on 2nd Aug.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

GOLFAN Y MYNYDD

(C) Breeding resident in small numbers with a patchy distribution. Absent from most western areas. Declining in most areas. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	41
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	24

A summary of all records: GWENT: The only record was of a single breeding pair at the long-established nestbox colony at Porton, which successfully reared a brood of four; E GLAMORGAN: One report, of two at Cowbridge (East) on 7th July; CARMARTHEN: Bred at Dryslwyn, where up to 4 were seen in both winter periods at garden feeders; BRECON: The only known 'colony' comprised two adults seen at garden feeders in Garthbreny, normally singly but together from February to April. An adult was feeding two juveniles on 4th June. Unconfirmed reports of 1-2 visiting a Llanfrynach garden during April, by the Nant Menascin; RADNOR: Breeding numbers down on recent years in main areas but new sites occupied in the western and northern parts of the county; MONTGOMERY: A small breeding population remains in the south-eastern corner of the county mostly around Montgomery, Bishops Castle and Churchstoke. A few records from Llanidloes. Max count 15-20 at Lymore on 24th Jan and up to 12 in a finch flock at Dolydd Hafren in Jan, with a few juveniles there with adults in June; CAERNARFON: One on the Little Orme on 11th April and three there on 14th Oct; two flew over Bardsey on 4th Oct; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn, one on 15th June, four on 21st July and one to 7th Aug. One at Cemaes from 25th Feb to 14th April and a pair near Bryngwran on 21st April; DENBIGH: The fewest records (15) for over 10 years. 12 records from a garden at Tallarn Green with a max. of 4 in mid Jan and two birds noted from south of Holt and up to 6 at Cyffylliog on 19th Feb; FLINT: All but nine of the 59 records were from a garden at Cilcain, and at another garden at Hawarden there were 6 in late Jan. The max count and only ringing record came from Sandycroft where 7 nestlings were ringed on 30th May. One and nine nests respectively were reported from Beeches Farm and Hem House Farm.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*

SIGLEN FELEN

(B) A summer visitor, now breeding regularly in only four counties. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	155
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	58

Records of breeding and possible breeding were: GWENT: Birds present in May at Llanfihangel Gobion, Llanbadoc, Llandenny, Llanfair Kilgeddin, Llanyby, Pant-y-goitre, Llanfair Discoed and Pen-y-lan. Breeding was proven at the first five May sites with fledged birds seen, whilst a nest with eggs was found at Pant-y-Goitre; BRECON: One visited Brechfa Pool on 10th July, and on 16th July two females brought food from the direction of the River Wye to 8+ recently-fledged juveniles in a potato crop near Dderw Pool; MONTGOMERY: Birds present at Dolydd Hafren 15th April - 19th Aug and may have bred.

Other records were: GWENT: In spring, recorded from 2nd April in small numbers. Of 105 reports from late July to the end of Sept, all except two were on the coast, mainly at Goldcliff Lagoons and Peterstone Wentlooge. Coastal records were mainly of 1 - 12 birds but higher numbers in Aug with max count of 80 on 31st Aug. In Sept, the highest count was 30 on 13th. The last birds were at Peterstone Wentlooge on 4th Oct; E. GLAMORGAN: Unusually, the only spring record was of 2 at Cefn Mably fishing ponds on 30th May. Reports from many coastal locations in late Aug and Sep, max 6 at Lavernock Pt on 30th Aug and 6 at Cardiff Bay on 7th Sept. The last record was one at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 1st Oct; GOWER: In spring 2 at the Vile Rhossili on 10th May. An isolated record at the Margam Discovery Centre on 29th June and in autumn 1-2 between 29th Aug and 26th Sept at 8 coastal sites; CARMARTHEN: One at Carmarthen on 19th April; PEMBROKE: In spring 1-2 recorded from 14th April to 19th June, on Skokholm, Skomer and Ramsey. Autumn records from 18th Aug to 10th Oct, at St Anns Head, Castlemartin Corse, Skokholm, Skomer and Ramsey, max 4 on Skomer on 10th Sept and a total of 11 on Skokholm in the period 19th-30th Sept; BRECON: First of spring were 4-5 on Llangorse Common on 24th April, increasing to 10 on the adjoining SCM on 2nd May. One by the River Usk at Brecon Town on 27th April. Two on Llangorse Common from 15th Aug, with up to 4 noted around the lake on five dates until 1st Sept and one flying east over Mynydd Penyfal on 6th Sept; MONTGOMERY: Reported at Meifod, Llyn Coed y Dinas and Tylwch April - May; MEIRIONNYDD: One at the Dwyryd est on 15th Aug was the first county record since 1996; CAERNARFON: One at Afonwen pools on 11th April and one on the Great Orme on 21st April. On Bardsey, singles on 21st May, 11th Aug and 10th and 27th Sept; ANGLESEY: First record one at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 19th April with one at Valley on 26th April. At Cemlyn, recorded on 7 days between 8th and 21st May, max 3 on 11th, and one flew over on 5th June. A male was by Afon Crigyll on 30th June; DENBIGH: One near Holt on 6th Aug; FLINT: First record one at Point of Ayr on 23rd April. Most records were of 1-2 with four records of 4 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and 5 there on 6th May. The last record was one at Connah's Quay NR on 25th Sept.

Records of races included:

M. f. flava - Blue-headed Wagtail

PEMBROKE: A male was on Skomer on 14th April; CAERNARFON: The only records came from Bardsey: a first-summer male on 21st - 22nd April and a first-winter bird on 10th Sept; ANGLESEY: One was at Valley on 27th April, two at Cemlyn on 11th-13th May, a male here on 29th May and a probable female feeding with Pied Wagtails on 26th-27th July.

One thought to be Channel-type (*flava* x *flavissima*) was near the Cefni on Malltraeth Marsh ANGLESEY on 19th April.

M.f.thunbergi - Grey-headed Wagtail

A male was found on Ty'n Llan fields, Cemlyn, ANGLESEY on 13th - 14th May.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

SIGLEN LWYD

(C) Locally common breeding resident, mainly along fast-flowing streams in all mainland counties of Wales. Increasing but very scarce on Anglesey. Most move away from hills in the autumn and either emigrate or frequent sites on lower ground. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2105
% of BirdTrack lists	11
No of 1km squares	746

GWENT: 399 records were received. On the coast between Aug and Sept there were 65 records, including a record of 24 birds on 30th Aug at Peterstone Wentlooge and 19 there on 5th Sept, with a further 45 coastal records from Oct to Dec; E GLAMORGAN: Bred at 10 sites and probably so at a further 30 sites, High counts were 30 flying over Cardiff Bay on 10th Sept and 37 on 16th Sept; GOWER: Bred at 24 sites and probably bred at another two; PEMBROKE: 20+ over Stackpole Warren on 16th Sept; BRECON: Breeding was widespread with an increased number of records; MONTGOMERY: A common species in gardens occurring in 50% of summer gardens and 49% of winter gardens; MEIRIONNYDD: Confirmed or probable breeding records from 13 sites with 17 pairs; CAERNARFON: Bardsey had a good autumn passage, with peak counts of 19 on 6th Sept, 35 on the 9th and 24 on both 19th and 26th Sept. 9 were also noted on the Little Orme on 17th Sept.

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

SIGLEN FRAITH

(C) A common and widespread breeding resident in many habitats. Autumn passage migrant and winter visitor. The continental race, White Wagtail, *M.a. alba*, is a regular passage migrant, occasionally breeding. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	5433
% of BirdTrack lists	32
No of 1km squares	1328

The highest counts (100+) of *yarrelli* were: GWENT: 110 at an active roost in Abergavenny town centre on 10th Jan; E. GLAMORGAN: 194 flying over Cardiff Bay Barrage on 30th Sept and 117 at Lavernock Pt on 11th Oct; GOWER: 171 at Castell-du Waungron on 5th Sept; CARMARTHEN: c.250 roosting at Carmarthen on 3rd Jan; CEREDIGION: 100 in Aberystwyth on 19th Sept. 120 there on 21st Dec and 177 flying to roost on 26th Sept; BRECON: 220 on wires at Brecon STW on 4th Jan; CAERNARFON: The largest counts came from a roost on a traffic island in Llandudno town centre, with 100 here on 3rd Jan.

M.a. alba (White Wagtail)

GWENT: 34 records, all but 7 from Goldcliff Lagoons. Spring passage from 23rd March to 27th May; and autumn passage from 1st Aug to 16th Oct. In most cases records were of 1-2 birds with counts of three in early April and of five birds during the autumn passage, on 26th Aug at Goldcliff Lagoons; E. GLAMORGAN: In spring recorded from 7th April to 9th May, max 25 at Kenfig NNR on 8th April. More reports in autumn from 18th Aug, max 46 at Dunraven on 28th Sept. In upland areas, at least 2 at Rhaslas Pond on 9th Sept and one N.W. of Fochriw on 10th Sept; GOWER: In spring 2 at Rhossili on 8th April and 2 at Pwll-y-

froga on 19th April. In autumn records from 6 coastal sites between 9th Aug. and 18th Sept. max. 8 at Broughton Burrows on 6th Sept and at Pwll-y-froga mound on 15th Sept; CARMARTHEN: Singles at Llansteffan on 20th March and Penlan Uchaf on 23rd, 2 at Penrhynwgwyn on 13th Sept, singles at Cross Hands on 24th and Kidwelly Quay on 26th Sept; PEMBROKE: In spring, singles at 3 sites from 7th April to 31st May. Autumn passage max 50 at Brynberian Moor on 31st Aug and 17 at Martins Haven on 11th Sept. On Skokholm a total of 262 logged in Sept. Last record on Skomer on 1st Oct; CEREDIGION: Widespread spring passage 18th March to 23rd April and in much smaller numbers in autumn between 4th Sept and 1st Oct. Peak counts 300 flying to roost at Teifi marshes on 14th April with 46 at RSPB Ynys-hir on the same date and 100 at Llanrhystud on 13th April; BRECON: One at The Cwm on 8th April and a series of sightings of 1 - 3 at Llangorse to 2nd May. Autumn passage 27th Aug to 27th Sept, max 4 at Brechfa Pool on 27th Aug, MEIRIONNYDD: Spring passage from 24th March, autumn passage to 29th Sept. Max 15 birds in a mixed flock with Pied Wagtails at the Dwyryd estuary on 15th Sept, CAERNARFON: Spring passage from 14th March to 10th May, max counts on Bardsey with 23 on 10th April, 24 on the 15th, and 47 on 19th April. Return migration from 9th Sept to 11th Oct, max again on Bardsey with 99 on 6th Sept, and 45 on 8th Sept; ANGLESEY: Spring passage 5th April to 2nd June, max 60 at RSPB Malltraeth Marsh on 19th-22nd April and 45 at Cemlyn on 20th April. A male at Cemlyn on 25th June then in autumn 16 at Malltraeth on 18th Nov; DENBIGH: All records at RSPB Conwy from 6th April to 16th Sept, max 10 on 16th April; FLINT: Recorded from 11th April to 11th Sept, max 26 near Gronant on 28th April.

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus richardi*
(A) A scarce autumn passage migrant.

CORHEDYDD Y RICHARD

No of BirdTrack records	8
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	6

All records were of singles: at Llanon, CEREDIGION on 10th Oct, on the Great Orme, CAERNARFON on 2nd and 31st Oct and at Uwchmynydd on 3rd Nov. flying south past Bardsey on 14th Oct and another moving south there on 1st Nov; ANGLESEY: Singles flying west over Mynachdy on 13th Oct and over Holyhead Mountain on 14th Oct.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*
(C) A widely distributed and locally numerous summer visitor, increasing. Passage migrant in fairly small numbers, best marked on the south coast in autumn. Wales Amber listed.

CORHEDYDD Y COED

No of BirdTrack records	418
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	229

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	20 th March	Goldcliff	20 th Sept	Peterstone Wentlooge
E. GLAMORGAN	8 th April	Merthyr Mawr & Twyn-giden	30 th Sept	Cardiff Bay Barrage
GOWER	5 th April	Cwm Clydach NR	28 th Sept	
CARMARTHEN	6 th April	Witchett Pool	19 th July	Gweunydd Cochion
PEMBROKE	6 th April	Pantmaenog Forest	12 th Oct	Skomer
CEREDIGION	4 th April	Cross Inn forest	8 th Sept	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	10 th April	Brechfa Pool	17 th Aug	The Cwm
RADNOR	6 th April	Elan Valley	19 th Sept	The Begwyns
MONTGOMERY	15 th April	Llanidloes		
MEIRIONNYDD	13 th April	Groeslwyd	13 th Aug	Garregelldrem
CAERNARFON	7 th April	Little Orme	9 th Oct	Bardsey
DENBIGH	20 th April	RSPB Conwy	2 nd Aug	Bronbannog
FLINT	21 st April	Gronant		

Present at more than 22 sites in GWENT in the breeding season. The total of 76 records in 2015 was remarkably similar to the 2014 total of 73. Breeding confirmed at only two sites in E. GLAMORGAN but possible at a further 19 sites. Also present at at least 29 sites in MEIRIONNYDD.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis*

CORHEDYDD Y WAUN

(C) A widespread and numerous breeding species, especially on moorland. Winter visitor and passage migrant. Most breeding birds are summer visitors. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	4035
% of BirdTrack lists	23
No of 1km squares	1213

High counts (100+) and significant breeding records included: GWENT: At Peterstone Wentlooge, max 199 in Sept and 651 in Oct; E.GLAMORGAN: 330 at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 30th Sept, 200 at Rhaslas pond on 2nd Oct, 303 at Sker Farm on 8th Oct and of note, 1,000 birds moving east at Lavernock Pt on 2nd Oct; GOWER: 168 in two hours over Mumbles Hill on 4th Oct; CARMARTHEN: c.100 at Cynnant on 15th Sept; PEMBROKE: 107 pairs on Skomer and 63 on Ramsey. 181 on Skokholm on 28th Sept, 120 on Skomer on 6th Sept, 125 on 27th, 240 on 7th Oct and 190 on 8th Oct and 100 at Dale Air Field on 25th Sept. BRECON: 200 at Pen-y-Gadair in the Black Mountains on 8th Sept and 100 at Gamrhiw on 27th Sept; MONTGOMERY: 200 at Llyn Hir on 6th Oct and 150 there on 8th Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: 50-100 on the Cwm Hirnant road to Lake Vyrnwy in Sept and early Oct ; over a period of six weeks several thousand must pass through. 16 territories on Crawcwellt, 20 territories on Dwyrdd saltmarsh and estuary on 23rd April; possible breeding at 57 sites at all altitudes from near sea level up to 550m; CAERNARFON: On Bardsey a minimum of 118 singing/displaying males, a record for the island. On spring migration there were 300 at the Little Orme on 7th and 9th April with 250 there on the 8th. In the autumn, 170 at the Great Orme on 3rd Oct with 100 the next day and 200 at Porth Neigwl on 2nd Oct. On Bardsey the peak monthly maximum counts were of 690 in March and 697 in Oct;

ANGLESEY: 100+ flushed from pasture at Silver Bay on 7th April, 100 at Malltraeth on 21st April, 112 over South Stack on 10th March with 166 there on 25th March and 150 at Cemlyn on 6th April; DENBIGH: Seven records of 36-200+ with the maximum count, 200+, at World's End on 4th April; FLINT: 100 near Rhuddlan on 6th April.

ROCK PIPIT *Anthus petrosus*

CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

(C) A breeding resident of rocky coastlines in all coastal counties except Flint and Gwent. Winter visitor in small numbers. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1275
% of BirdTrack lists	7
No of 1km squares	379

GWENT: Bred on Denny Island. 25 records of birds seen on the coast in the first half year and 20 in the second half; E. GLAMORGAN: Confirmed breeding from Cardiff Bay and possible at Irongate Pt, Porthcawl, with 7 at Ogmore Est on 7th May and groups of 6 at Cardiff Bay on 19th Jan and 19th Oct, at Aberthaw on 6th March and at Sully Beach on 30th Oct, 7 at Kenfig NNR on 19th Sept and 11 at Southerndown on 10th March; GOWER: Bred Broughton Bay, Mewslade Valley and Margam Breakwater with birds at 13 other coastal locations. Outside the breeding season high counts were of 10 between Rhossili Headland and Mewslade on 6th Feb and 12 along the track at Pwll-y-froga to the mound on 30th Nov; CARMARTHEN: Bred at both Pembrey and Burry Port Harbours with records from Kidwelly Quay, Pwll and Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: Breeding evidence was noted in 41 coastal 1km squares; CEREDIGION: Seen all around the coast throughout the year and well up the Dyfi during the winter months; MEIRIONNYDD: Seen at Boston Lodge on 3rd Jan, two at Porthmadog Cob on 18th July, three at Cefn Cam, Penmaenpool on 25th Aug, far from the rocky coast, one at Tonfanau on 28th Sept and at Porthmadog Cob on 12th Oct; CAERNARFON: 59 singing males on Bardsey, the most ever recorded. Breeding was confirmed around the Great Orme and Little Orme, at Victoria Dock Caernarfon and at least five pairs on Caernarfon foreshore between the mouth of Afon Seiont and Foryd . Display was also noted at Penrhyn Bay. 8 at the Little Orme on 15th and 23rd March, 9 between Dinas Dinlle and Afon Llifon on 10th March and at Porth Ysgaden on 30th July and 10 at Traeth Penllech on 27th Oct; ANGLESEY: At Cemlyn a bird colour-ringed on Bardsey was on Ynys Feurig, Rhosneigr for a third season, from 6th June to 1st Aug; DENBIGH: 33 records, mostly at RSPB Conwy where the maximum was 7 on 19th Jan. The first autumn record was two near Rhos-on-Sea on 18th Oct. and the other four records were singles or presence at coastal locations; FLINT: 1 - 6 at Connah's Quay NR, a single at Talacre on 17th April, two at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 27th Oct with subsequent records of 1 - 4 at Connah's Quay.

Birds showing characteristics of the Scandinavian race *littoralis* were: GWENT: One at Peterstone Wentlooge on 22nd March; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Ogmore Est on 11th March; CARMARTHEN: Two at North Dock, Llanelli; PEMBROKE: Singles at St. David's Head on 22nd March and at Broad Haven south on 3rd April; MEIRIONNYDD: One on the Dwyryd Estuary on 30th March; CAERNARFON: Birds on Bardsey on ten dates in March, including ten on 15th March.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

(B) A winter visitor in small numbers, mainly recorded in coastal areas but also, less frequently in Wales, inland. Passage migrant in small numbers. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	85
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	31

GWENT: 31 records on the coast, with one at NWRUskmouth on 31st Jan but all other records from the area between Peterstone Gout and Peterstone Great Wharf. 7 reports in Jan, max count 7 on 17th, with 6 on 19th and 25th Jan. The last bird of the spring was on 5th April. In autumn, the first two returning birds on 31st Oct at Peterstone Gout. Thereafter, 1 - 3 on this stretch of the coast until 28th Dec when a high count of 18 birds was made; E. GLAMORGAN: Singles at Ogmor est from 17th Jan to 10th March and at Rhumney Great Wharf on 4th Feb. In the second winter period, 6 at Rhumney Great Wharf on 29th Oct and one there on 1st Nov, with one at the Ogmor est on 2nd and 4th Nov; GOWER: Singles at Loughor Bridge on 22nd Jan and Landimore on 24th Jan. A spring plumage bird at Wernffrwd on 5th April and in autumn one at Dalton's Point on 16th Nov; CEREDIGION: One at Ynyslas on 4th Jan, up to two along the Clettwr from 24th Jan to 21st Feb and two at RSPB Ynys-hir on 20th-21st Feb. In the second-winter period, one at Llanon and one along the Clettwr, both on 19th Nov; MEIRIONNYDD: Singles at Penrhyndeudraeth Sewage works on 6th Feb and at the Boston Lodge end of Porthmadog Cob on 21st Feb; CAERNARFON: One at Morfa Aber on 4th Jan and in the second winter period, one at Traeth Penllech on 27th Oct; ANGLESEY: One at RSPB Malttraeth Marsh on 28th Oct and on 22nd Nov; DENBIGH: Records of presence or of 1 - 2 birds at RSPB Conwy between 10th and 29th Dec; FLINT: One at Connah's Quay NR on 29th Nov.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

PINC Y MYNYDD

(C) Winter visitor in variable numbers; seldom numerous and usually locally distributed. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	115
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	65

Large counts (10+) were: GWENT: 10 at Wentwood on 26th Jan and 25 at Brynithel on 14th March. Larger numbers in the second winter period, with 65 passing Peterstone Wentlooge between 11th Oct and 20th Nov with a single-day maximum of 21. Elsewhere, regular sightings of up to 12 at Brynithel from mid-Oct; E GLAMORGAN: More reports and larger numbers in the second winter period, max 50 at Lavernock Pt on 2nd Nov; CEREDIGION: 100 at Pontrhydygroes on 18th Jan and 20 at The Arch on 5th Jan; MONTGOMERY: 190 near Cefn Coch on 25th Feb; CAERNARFON: 14 in Gwydyr Forest in March. Bardsey had regular records in October, including a count of 94 on 31st and 20 on 1st Nov; ANGLESEY: 10 at Carmel Head on 25th Oct, 10 at South Stack on 28th Oct and 15 over Wylfa on 1st Nov; DENBIGH: 15 flying out of a roost at Pentrefelin, Conwy Valley on 24th Oct; FLINT: 10 at Bagillt on 3rd Nov.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

JI-BINC

(C) *An abundant resident, numerous passage migrant and winter visitor. Possibly declining. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	8635
% of BirdTrack lists	52
No of 1km squares	1852

Counts of winter flocks over 150 included: GWENT: in Wentwood Forest 250 at Cadira Beeches on 11th Jan and 200 at Five Paths on 26th Jan. Passage birds numbered 303 on 14th March at Peterstone and 755 on 21st with autumn peaks of 554 on 3rd Oct, 864 on 31st Oct, 1,444 on 2nd Nov and 318 on 20th Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: 200 in Coed Cefn-fforest on 15th Feb, 370 at Dunraven on 28th Sept, 460 at Lavernock Pt on 30th Sept, 810 there on 1st Oct, max. of 1,000 flying east at Lavernock Pt on 2nd Oct and over 7,000 on 2nd Nov, 200 at Garwnant on 25th Oct, 570 at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 2nd Nov and 375 at Grangemoor Park on 12th Nov; GOWER: 602 recorded in two hours at Mumbles Hill on 4th Oct. At Oxwich NNR., 265 birds were captured, including a first-winter female ringed in Nov 2010 that was re-trapped in Feb 2015; CARMARTHEN: 219 at Penlan Uchaf on 6th Jan, 216 there on 20th Nov and c.250 at Penclacwydd on 29th Oct; PEMBROKE: 200 at Chapel Farm on 25th Jan, 100+ near Carew River - New Shipping Point on 22nd Nov; CEREDIGION: An estimated 10,000 flying south over Llanon/Llanrhystud on 31st Oct; BRECON: 150 at Cathedine on 16th Feb; MONTGOMERY: Up to 200 at Dolydd Hafren in Jan; CAERNARFON: 150 on the Great Orme on 1st Nov and on autumn passage on Bardsey from late Sept numbers rose to 758 on 19th Oct and 9,349 on 31st Oct, the second-highest count for the island; ANGLESEY: 210 flew over South Stack on 25th Oct, 185 on 26th and 221 on 31st Oct.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

GYLFINBRAFF

(C) *Resident in small numbers in lowland areas, principally in east Wales and in the Dolgellau area of Meirionnydd. Formerly scarcer. Some evidence of small-scale immigration in winter. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	101
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	40

All records were: GWENT: 15 birds caught near Chepstow, five of which had been ringed in previous years. At Tintern 19 new birds caught included juveniles and 7 re-traps and at Monmouth 31 new birds were caught, again including juveniles, plus 14 re-traps. One of these birds set a new UK longevity record, having been first caught in April 2007. No other evidence of breeding, but some new sites for the species added. In Jan singles at Slade Wood, Mynydd-bach and St. Pierre Woods. For three weeks in March and April there were up to five in Minnetts Wood and one at Penallt on 12th March. The largest count of the year was of 9 at Highmeadow Woods on 1st April. In Sept and Nov up to three birds were at Gwern Ddu and 1 - 2 were at Dingestow in Oct and Nov; E. GLAMORGAN: One at Merthyr Mawr on 30th May but no breeding records. Most reports in the first winter period, all but one from Fforestganol near Castell Coch where 10-20 birds were seen on four dates in Jan

with 10-18 in Feb. At Forest Farm, two on 11th Jan. In the second winter period, one at Cathays Cemetery on 1st Nov and two in Cardiff on 27th Nov; CARMARTHEN: Four at Cyngordy on 30th Aug; CEREDIGION: One visited a garden in Capel Seion on a number of dates between 23rd Feb and 7th April; BRECON: One in a garden in Llanwrthwl village from 30th June to 3rd July; MONTGOMERY: Up to 15 were in Powis Castle car park between 12th Jan and 22nd Feb with one there on 27th and 29th Dec, and one in a garden near Dolanog for two weeks in mid-June; MEIRIONNYDD: 7 at Maentwrog on 9th Jan, two in Llanelltyd Churchyard on 18th Jan with 6 on 30th Jan, two on 2nd Feb and 9th March, 12 at Dolgellau on 6th Feb, 7 in Maentwrog churchyard on 9th April, one at Dolgellau on 20th April and one at Llyn Gwernan Cader Idris on 15th May. 192 new birds have been colour ringed in the Dolgellau area as part of a long term study of the species and 16 adult female were fitted with radio tags to allow them to be followed back to nest sites. There have been 1,515 re-sightings of these colour ringed birds with 1,313 of these from one private garden in Dolgellau. Some Hawfinch are now probably suffering from Trichomoniasis; CAERNARFON: In the Conwy valley, regular records at Llanbedr-y-cennin between 6th Jan and 12th April, max 4, with a pair there on 17th May, one, possibly 4, on 21st Dec and one on 23rd Dec. At Caerhun church, one on 5th Feb and one further up the valley at Betws y Coed on 23rd Jan. The only other records were of two on Mynydd Rhiw on 20th Jan, one at the Great Orme on 1st Nov and singles on Bardsey on 13th-14th and 27th Oct; DENBIGH: 5 - 11 were recorded in the Vale of Clwyd on many dates between 1st Jan and 8th April, often feeding with a flock of up to 25 Greenfinches and 10 Chaffinches. A single was also at Bodnant on 10th March.

COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*

LLINOS GOCH

(A) A scarce migrant, on WRP list.

PEMBROKE: A female/immature bird trapped and ringed on Skokholm on 11th June and others on Skomer on 13th-14th June and 14th Oct; CAERNARFON: A female or immature was on Bardsey on 7th June.

BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

COCH Y BERLLAN

(D) A fairly numerous resident in the lowlands, patchier in its distribution in the far west and scarce in the uplands, other than in some areas of recent afforestation. Now thought to be declining. Unusual on the islands. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2589
% of BirdTrack lists	14
No of 1km squares	739

Large counts (10+) were: E. GLAMORGAN: 10 at St Brides Major on 21st Jan, 10 at Kenfig Pool on 23rd Jan, 12 at Tirfounder Fields on 1st Feb, then 13 at Kenfig Pool on 3rd and 12th Oct, 10 at Forest Farm/Glamorgan Canal/Floodplain on 17th Oct; GOWER: 10 at Swansea Vale LNR on 5th and 12th Feb; PEMBROKE: 17 at Pantmaeno on 17th Jan; CEREDIGION: 15 at Cors Caron on 22nd Jan; MONTGOMERY: 16 at Dolydd Hafren on 18th Oct; CAERNARFON: 10 at Eithnog, Bangor, on 16th Jan, 10 at the Little Orme on 1st Nov with

12 here on 2nd; ANGLESEY: 10 at Mynydd Eilian on 31st Oct; DENBIGH: 10 in Clocaenog Forest, on 10th Oct; FLINT: 14 at Llanfynydd on 14th Jan and 15 at Rhydymwyn on 22nd March.

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

LLINOS WERDD

(C) Resident, formerly common but population has declined following outbreak of Trichomonosis. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	3610
% of BirdTrack lists	21
No of 1km squares	708

Highest counts were: GWENT No counts larger than 14 in the first winter period, with 16 in March at NWR; E. GLAMORGAN: 20 at Dyffryn Gardens on 5th Jan, 23 at Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm on 8th Jan and 30 at Llanwonno on 21st Feb. In the second winter period 50 at Ogmores Castle on 3rd Sept, 35 at Lavernock Pt on 4th Sept and 30+ at Ty'n-y-Caeau farm on 8th Dec; GOWER: No counts over 12 but 468 birds were ringed at Oxwich NNR. c..f. 355 in 2014, with 50 caught on 6th Sept. and 58 on 3rd Oct; CARMARTHEN: 31 on feeders at Chandlers Yard, Burry Port on 4th Jan, 30 at Pwll on 25th Jan, 30 at Pembrey Harbour on 16th Sept and at Penlan Uchaf on 23rd and c.50 at Penclacwydd on 29th Oct; BRECON: Max flock size was 13 at Llangorse; MONTGOMERY: c.50 on 9th Dec at Dolydd Hafren; CAERNARFON: 300 at a roost near Llandudno pier on 3rd Jan and 25 on 9th Aug, 40 on 3rd Nov and 30 on 1st Dec, 30 at the Little Orme on 1st Nov. Autumn passage on Bardsey peaked at 40 on 19th Oct and 28 on 20th Oct; ANGLESEY: Max 29 at Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn in March; DENBIGH: 22 at garden feeders at Pentrefelin, Conwy Valley on 24th Aug, 40 on 15th Sept and 31 on 7th Nov, with 35-40 at Pensarn on 31st Oct and 40+ on 15th Dec; FLINT: Counts of 50 from Rhuddlan on 19th Jan and Connah's Quay NR on 12th July.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina*

LLINOS

(C) Breeding resident, summer visitor and passage migrant. Wales Red listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2988
% of BirdTrack lists	17
No of 1km squares	839

Counts of over 100 included: GWENT: 100+ birds passed Peterstone on several dates between 16th Aug and 3rd Nov, with maxima of 331 on 18th Sept, 755 on 3rd Oct and 600 on 10th Oct. Inland, a large flock was intermittently present at Llangybi from 25th Aug to 17th Oct and 200 at Abertysswg on 23rd Sept; E GLAMORGAN: 30 counts of 100+ birds, max 266 at Cardiff Bay on 30th Sept and 330 on 1st Oct, 420 at Dunraven on 28th Sept, 215 at Sker on 6th Sept, 1,800 at Lavernock on 30th Sept, 1,350 there on 1st Oct and 1,000 still there on 2nd Oct; GOWER: Post-breeding coastal flocks from July to Sept of up to 160 but 400 at the Vile Rhossili on 29th Sept and late winter flocks of up to 180 with max. 500 at

Pitton on 10th Oct; CARMARTHEN: .c.250 at Penlan Uchaf on 6th Jan and 127 on 23rd March; PEMBROKE: 500+ at Linney Burrows/Bluckspool area on 6th Sept; CEREDIGION: 130 at Bwlchcrwys on 19th July, 100 at Ynyslas on 23rd Aug and 250 at Llanon on 2nd Oct with 500 there on 13th Oct; BRECON: 100 near Fforest Fach on 4th Sept, 220 at Roman Road on 5th Sept and 200 at Pennorth on 24th Dec; MONTGOMERY: 200+ at Dolydd Hafren on 4th Jan, 100+ there on 18th Jan and 8th Feb and c.100 at Lymore on 13th March; MEIRIONNYDD: 100 at Ynys Fawr fields, Penrhyndeudraeth on 15th Aug; CAERNARFON: 120 at Bodlondeb on 10th Feb with 170 there on 25th Feb, 120 at Braich-y-pwll on 15th April, and in autumn 160 on Mynydd Mawr (Uwchmynydd) on 9th Sept, 120 on the Great Orme on 4th Oct. Spring passage on Bardsey produced peak counts of 258 on 13th April and 249 on the 15th and on autumn passage, record high counts of 693 on 22nd Aug and a peak of 510 in Sept. 41 pairs also bred on Bardsey, the highest number since 2005; ANGLESEY: 400+ at Fedw Fawr on 17th Aug, 100+ on Borthwen Headland on 29th Aug, 110 at Cemlyn on 1st Aug, 250 there on 25th Aug and 200 on 1st Sept and on autumn passage at South Stack a max of 158 on 26th Sept; FLINT: 150 at Point of Ayr on 25th Jan, 100 at Connah's Quay on 9th Sept, 100 at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 27th Oct and 200 at Talacre on 4th Nov.

TWITE *Carduelis flavirostris*

LLINOS Y MYNYDD

(A) *Scarce breeding species, presumably resident, declining in range, now apparently extinct in Meirionnydd, a former stronghold; scarce winter visitor and passage migrant in very small numbers. Wales Amber listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	170
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	28

CAERNARFON: 8 at Dinas Dinlle on 8th Feb and singles at Penrhyn Bay on 11th April, at Black Rock Sands on 13th April and in Nant Ffrancon on 23rd April. In the second winter period, one at Morfa Madryn on 2nd Nov, two at Penrhyn Bay on 19th Dec with one there on 15th-31st Dec and possibly the same at the Little Orme on 28th Dec; ANGLESEY: 13 at Cemlyn until 6th Jan with five on 9th, one on 17th March, two on 30th April and 3 on 20th Nov. One was at South Stack on 17th March and nine on 14th April, two on the Range on 14th April and one flew past Point Lynas on 1st Nov; DENBIGH: An inland flock of 40 at Rhewl, near Llangollen on 28th March and elsewhere small numbers at Kinnel Bay in the autumn, with a maximum of 20 on 13th Oct, six on 16th Oct, 12 on 20th Oct and a winter record of one on 14th Dec; FLINT: The Connah's Quay flock peaked at 200 in Jan, 150 in Feb, 136 in March and 80 in April and then three in Sept, 170 in Oct, 80 in Nov and 132 in Dec. At Oakenholt Marsh numbers peaked at 170 in Jan, 77 in Feb and 60 in March and in the autumn six in Oct, 30 in Nov and 120 in Dec.

2014: One near Carno Wind Farm, MONTGOMERY on 22nd Oct.

LESSER REDPOLL *Carduelis cabaret*

LLINOS BENGGOCH LEIAF

(C) Partial migrant, widely distributed as a breeding bird but probably declining. Passage migrant and winter visitor in varying numbers. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	571
% of BirdTrack lists	3
No of 1km squares	277

Large counts (15+) and breeding records included: GWENT: No confirmed breeding but pairs visiting probable nest sites at Oakdale on 18th May, Abertysswg on the 23rd and Blaenserchan on 9th June. Passage at Peterstone between Sept and Nov, with max count 44 on 3rd Oct. At NWR Uskmouth 30 were caught on 3rd Oct and 20 on 25th Oct. The largest count was a flock of 80 at NWR on 18th Oct, mixed with Linnets; E GLAMORGAN: Breeding suspected at three sites; max counts 20 at Taf Bargoed Lakes on 11th Jan, 20 at Cardiff Bay WR on 21st Jan and 15 at Lavernock Pt on 30th Sept; GOWER: Probably bred at Oxwich NNR., at Brynlllefrith Plantation Upper Lliw and Craig y Aber/Cwm Kenfig but present at 8-9 other sites; CARMARTHEN: Breeding season records from Mynydd Pencarreg; PEMBROKE: 19 at Llanfyrnach on 2nd Oct and 15 at Pantmaenog on 16th May; CEREDIGION: Seen mainly in the uplands where it breeds widely in young forestry plantations and on the fringes of the larger boggy areas as at Cors Caron and Cors Fochno in willow scrub. 100+ at Cross Inn forest on 28th Feb was the highest count of the year; BRECON: 25 at Llangasty on 18th Jan, 100 at Garth Bank on 2nd Sept and 40 at Llangasty Church on 22nd Oct. Singing males in Glasfynydd Forest, the Sennybridge area at Craig Cerrig Gleisiad the northern Beacons Coed Ty-mawr Mynydd Illtyd, Nantygro in Elan and on RSPB Carngafallt; MONTGOMERY: 30 on feeders at Llanidloes on 21st March and on autumn passage 60+ at Lake Vyrnwy on 8th Oct and 30+ at Dolydd Hafren on 25th Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: Confirmed breeding at two sites, breeding season records from 34 sites, max count 15 at Llyn Celyn on 13th Sept; CAERNARFON: 10 birds displaying in Beddgelert forest on 15th March and 10 at Cefn Cyfarwydd on 7th June included pairs. Probable breeding at Morfa Madryn and possible at 10 other sites. 20 at the Little Orme on 8th April with 18 there on the 9th and 26 at Llyn Elsi on 17th Sept. On Bardsey, return passage peaks were 33 on 19th Oct and 27 on the 31st; DENBIGH: Fewer reports and lower numbers than in 2014 with the largest count of 20 at Cefn Meiriadog on 11th Feb and 20+ at World's End on 17th March. Six breeding records and fledged young were ringed at Bronbannog; FLINT: Lower numbers than in 2014 and no large counts.

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*

LLINOS BENGGOCH

(A) Scarce vagrant, on WRP list.

The WRP are reviewing records of this species, including several records from 2015. Those accepted by the Panel will be published when available.

CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

GYLFIN GROES

(C) *An increasing resident species although numbers fluctuate; occasional irruptive immigrant. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	239
% of BirdTrack lists	1
No of 1km squares	151

Large counts (25+) and breeding records included: GWENT: Records mostly in the first half of the year and from conifer woodlands on the Trellech Plateau (10 records) and from Wentwood (14), with sightings at 11 other sites. Larger counts included 40 at Five Paths in Wentwood on 13th June, Birds were singing in Loysey Wood, Trellech on 21st Jan; pairs seen and a male 'on guard' at Five Paths, Wentwood on 14th Feb; pairs in Chepstow Park Wood, also on 14th Feb; three pairs and nest-building noted at Cleddon Hall on 26th Feb; and nest-building also at Little Oak, Wentwood on 25th May; E. GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding reports and only two reports of probable or possible breeding - at Garwnant and Craig yr Aber & Cwm Cynffig. Post breeding, Lavernock saw 80 pass on 27th Sept, 180 on 30th and 160 on 1st Oct. Dunraven saw 105 on 27th Sept, 163 on 28th, 290 on 29th, 168 on 30th and 155 on 1st Oct; GOWER: 30 at Craig y Aber/Cwm Kenfig on 22nd Nov; CEREDIGION: Juveniles at Cross Inn forest in Jan, at Coed Dolgoed and Waun Maenllwyd near Llanddewi Brefi in May and at Bwlch Nant yr Arian in Sept. 25 at Cross Inn forest in Jan and Feb; BRECON: A family party at Llaneglwys Forest on 23rd Feb, a pair defended a territory at Usk Reservoir and a female was with two recently-fledged juveniles at Coetgae Mawr on 10th March. 35 in Llaneglwys Wood on 19th Sept included some juveniles; CAERNARFON: Numbers peaked at 100 on 27th June in the Llyn Sarnau area of Gwydr Forest, elsewhere present at 6+ other suitable breeding sites but no breeding records. On passage 27 flew past the Great Orme on 20th May; ANGLESEY: 34 at Carmel Head on 19th Sept, 41 on 3rd Oct and 39 on 10th Oct; DENBIGH: Two juveniles in Clocaenog Forest on 18th March.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis*

NICO

(C) *Resident, summer visitor and passage migrant; possibly winter visitor in small numbers. Population is increasing. Wales Green listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	7026
% of BirdTrack lists	42
No of 1km squares	1370

Flocks of 100+ were: GWENT: Most of the birds in a flock of 300 finches in Wentwood on 11th Jan were Goldfinches. Flocks of 100+ at Dingestow on 20th Sept, at Rhymney Great Wharf on the 23rd and Mynydd Llangatwg on 25th Sept. Counts at Peterstone Wentlooge exceeded 100 on dates from 4th Sep to 3rd Nov while Oct had three counts over 1,000 and a maximum of 1,381 on 3rd, E. GLAMORGAN: 150 at Garn Wen and Castell y Mawn on 11th Jan and many high counts later in the year at Lavernock Pt during autumn passage from late Sept to early Nov e.g. 1,340 on 30th Sept, 1,300 on 1st Oct and 1,800 on 2nd Nov, elsewhere 150 at Rhumney Great Wharf on 23rd Sept, 430 at Dunraven Park on 28th Sept

and 776 at Cardiff Bay Barrage on 30th Sept; GOWER: Max. 250 at Nitten Field on 8th Sept and 200 there on 12th Oct; 464 birds were ringed at Oxwich NNR with the best daily catch being 39 on 7th June; CARMARTHEN: 100 in Sept at Penclacwydd; CEREDIGION: 100 at Pant-y-Crug on 31st Aug and 150 at Cors Caron on 3rd Oct; BRECON: 150 at Hen Llanwrthwl on 4th Oct; MONTGOMERY: 100 at Llyn Hir on 3rd Oct; CAERNARFON: 100 on the Great Orme on 23rd Aug, 100 near Coed Rhos-fawr on 30th Aug and 100+ between Ty Hyll and Llyn Geirionnydd on 4th Jan, 228 on Bardsey on 11th Oct (the second-highest total for the island) and then new record counts of 348 on 12th Oct and 439 on 31st Oct; ANGLESEY: 100 at Malltraeth on 2nd Sept and 160 at Holyhead Breakwater CP on 9th Oct; DENBIGH: 130 around garden feeders at Pentrefelin, Conwy Valley on 22nd Nov; FLINT: 110+ at Talacre on 17th Oct and 150 at Connah's Quay NR on 29th Sept.

SERIN *Serinus serinus*

LLINOS FRECH

(A) Scarce vagrant, on WRP list

CAERNARFON: There was a male on Bardsey on 18th Sept, the first record for Wales since 2006.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

PILA GWYRDD

(C) An increasing breeding species; numerous winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Green listed.

No of BirdTrack records	1670
% of BirdTrack lists	9
No of 1km squares	560

Large counts (60+) and breeding records included: GWENT: In the autumn, significant movements at Peterstone from late June till mid Nov, peaking in Sept with 215 birds on the 10th, 120 on 20th, 144 on 29th and 269 on 10th Oct. Young birds were seen in Wentwood on 18th June, Llangybi on 3rd Aug, Penallt on 6th Sept and Ysgyryd Fach on 18th Sept; E. GLAMORGAN: Breeding confirmed at only 3 sites. In the first winter period 150 at Garwnant on 15th Jan and 200 to 300 there on 25th Feb. In the second winter period the maximum counts in Sept were 144 at Cardiff Bay, 470 at Dunraven and 820 at Lavernock with 320 there on 1st Oct; GOWER: Bred at Oxwich NNR, Crynant, Moss House Woods and Pen-y-Cae but present at another 17 localities. Largest flocks were of 60+ at Gnoll Park on 18th July and 60+ overflying Oxwich Marsh on 19th Sept; CEREDIGION: Flocks of 100+ at RSPB Ynys-hir, Cross Inn forest and Coed Maenarthur; BRECON: Two flocks at Brynich in December totalling 90 birds. At least 17 pairs/territories were located; MONTGOMERY: A poor year with fewer sightings than usual but 100+ at Cwm Biga on 21st Feb and c.100 at Allt Goch on 21st March; MEIRIONNYDD: Breeding season records from 31 sites; CAERNARFON: Probable or proven breeding near Llyn Crafnant, near Llyn Sarnau and near Criccieth. Spring passage on Bardsey peaked at just five on 7th April, but on return passage a record count for the island of 259 on 31st Oct.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*

BRAS YR EIRA

(B) Regular autumn passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	29
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	19

GOWER: Two at Whiteford Sands on 28th-29th Dec; CARMARTHEN: 18 at Fan Foel, Mynydd Du on 8th Feb; PEMBROKE: Singles at Foel Feddau, Preseli, on 17th Jan, on Ramsey on 10th March, at St. David's Head on 31st Oct, and on Skomer on 7th Oct with a different bird next day; BRECON: One over Table Mountain, Crickhowell, on 17th Jan and a flock on Mynydd Du close to the Carmarthen border with 18 at Fan Foel on 8th Feb and 11 on Picws Du on 27th Feb; RADNOR: Two on Black Mixen on 28th Feb; MEIRIONNYDD: 10 on Arenig on 2nd Feb and four at Bwlch y Groes on 12th Nov; CAERNARFON: Singles on the Great Orme on 1st Feb and 22nd March, one on Bardsey on 13th-14th March and two at Yr Aran on 6th Feb. In the 2nd winter period singles on Bardsey on 14th and 30th Oct and on the Great Orme on 16th-17th Nov; ANGLESEY: One on Holyhead Breakwater on 17th Nov; DENBIGH: 7 records of 1-2 birds in Jan, April and Oct to Dec, with two at Pensarn on 7th Nov; FLINT: One at Point of Ayr on 8th March and 6 on 23rd Dec at Gronant.

LAPLAND BUNTING *Calcarius lapponicus*

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

(A) An uncommon but regular passage migrant in small numbers, especially in autumn, and an occasional winter resident. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	52
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	17

All records were: CARMARTHEN: One at Ffos Las on 11th Feb was only the 4th county record; PEMBROKE: One on Skokholm on 14th Oct, two at Dale Airfield on 10th Oct, one here on 11th Nov, three on 8th Dec and four by the 13th; CAERNARFON: One on the Great Orme on 22nd March and singles on four dates in Oct/early Nov, three at Cilan Head on 29th Sept, three at Uwchmynydd on 27th Sept, four on 30th Sept and one on 3rd Nov one on Bardsey on 8th Oct and one on the Little Orme on 2nd Nov. The last record was of three near Aberdesach on 2nd Dec; ANGLESEY: Singles at Cemlyn from 11th to 17th March and on 14th May, four there on 13th Oct and two on 14th Oct, one at South Stack on 28th-30th Sept and two there on 28th Oct with singles at Silver Bay on 2nd-4th Oct, over Llanfachraeth on 31st Oct and at Tywyn Fferam, Rhosneigr on 16th April.

BLACK-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza melanocephala*

BRAS PENDDU

(A) Rare vagrant, on BBRC list.

Three records in PEMBROKE of single males in June, the first on Skomer on 7th June, then at Saundersfoot on 10th June and finally at St. Justinian's on 29th June, possibly all records relating to the same roving bird?

CRETZSCHMAR'S BUNTING *Emberiza caesia*

BRAS CRETZCHMAR

(A) *Very rare vagrant, on BBRC list.*

A male was seen on Bardsey, CAERNARFON between 10th and 20th June. This was the first record for Wales and only the sixth for Britain.

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana*

BRAS Y GERDDI

(A) *Rare vagrant, on WRP list.*

A single bird on Skokholm on 20th May was the only record in PEMBROKE. An adult female and two first-winter birds were found on Bardsey, CAERNARFON on 9th Sept, with singles there on 11th and 13th assumed to be one of these birds. On the 15th, two new birds were on the island.

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella*

BRAS MELYN

(C) *Declining as a resident breeding species over large parts of Wales. Wales Red listed.*

No of BirdTrack records	380
% of BirdTrack lists	2
No of 1km squares	172

Large counts (10+) and breeding summaries (not full surveys); GWENT: In the breeding season, birds were found in May on The Bloreng, at The Hendre, Llandenny, Llangwm and Pen-y-clawdd but no confirmation of breeding. Near Osbaston, 4 territorial pairs were noted, of which three bred and produced young. At Coed-y-Prior, in late June, three nests were discovered, containing eggs or young. During June, a singing male on The Bloreng; three birds (one a singing male) were at Rockfield; and single birds at 7 other sites. In the autumn and second winter period, 12 on Ysgyrd Fawr on 28th Sept; E GLAMORGAN: No confirmed breeding reports, but probable or possible breeding at four sites. Other reports during the breeding season were mostly of 1-2 birds, with 5 at Norton Farm and 6 between Shwllac Lane and Ewenny during May. In the first winter period up to 27 were at Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm between Jan and March and 100 at Llancadle Village on 1st March; GOWER: Concentrated on Gower, breeding at Hardings Down (2+ pairs) and Longhole Cliff and probably at Tankeylake Moor (3 pairs), Cefn Bryn near Reynoldston and Paviland. Adults or singing males were at Rhossili Headland, Whitemoor (two males), Mewslade, Nitten Field, Paviland (2-3 pairs), Ram Grove, Kingshall (two pairs), Pilton Green S.W. between Bank Farm and Margam Farm (4 males), Blackhole Gut, Frogmoor (4 males), Cefn Bryn N. side, Cefn Bryn S. side (6 males), Fairwood Common, nr. Three Crosses and Lliw Reservoir. 14 at Nitten Field on 5th April; CARMARTHEN: Two pairs bred at Cynnant, and birds were regular at Dinas with a max. of 5 on 4th and 22nd April. One was singing at Banc Bwlch Trebannau, Llandovery on 27th April. Away from the core area of the upper Tywi Valley one was singing at Marros Common on 20th May; PEMBROKE: Recorded from 20 locations with the max counts 17 singing males at Plumstone Mountain on 19th June and 12 at Crug Glas near St.David's during Jan and Feb; CEREDIGION: Reported from 9

localities, with breeding season records from RSPB Ynys-hir, Ystumtuen, Cwm Breff and Cors Ian. 10 at Trisant on 7th Dec; BRECON: 70 at Eligro NR, Llangorse in March and 102 ringed at the lake in March. 31+ territories reported from widespread sites in the county. Up to 30 at Llangorse Lake in Nov/Dec and 50 at Pennorth and Llanbeilin; MONTGOMERY: 50+ records, many at garden feeders. A flock of 50+ was at Lymore on 16th Dec; MEIRIONNYDD: Birds seen in the breeding season at 20+ sites throughout the county. Around the county border with CAERNARFON, 60+ at Pont Croesor on 5th Jan; CAERNARFON: Many records from the Mynydd Mawr (Uwchmynydd) area, a stronghold for this species, but of low numbers (max 3 singing males on 9th April). Records from 10 other sites in western Llŷn. Further east, records from 9+ sites. In the Conwy valley, there were records from six sites during the year; ANGLESEY: Max 11 at Brynteg in May; DENBIGH: Reports were 25% down on 2014. Max 11 at Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd on 26th April; FLINT: The number of records increased very slightly from 2014 but only one was recorded after the first week in July and only six of the counts were of more than 1-2: birds.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

BRAS Y CYRS

(C) A fairly common resident breeding species, mainly in waterside habitats; evidence of a small autumn emigration. Wales Amber listed.

No of BirdTrack records	2185
% of BirdTrack lists	12
No of 1km squares	492

Large counts (20+) and breeding records were: GWENT: In the first winter period 89% of records came from the coastal strip, with high counts at Uskmouth, of 20 on 20th Jan, 21 on 23rd Jan; 60 on 30th Jan and 40 on 7th Feb. Breeding was confirmed at only three sites but breeding was probably widespread; E GLAMORGAN: Breeding was confirmed at Forest Farm and Cosmeston CP with probable or possible breeding at a further 18 southerly sites. In the first part of the year, 50 on 1st March at Llanccadle and up to 20 at Forest Farm; GOWER: Bred at Oxwich NNR, Clyne Common, Swansea Vale LNR, Crymlyn Bog, Pant-y-Sais Fen, Brunel Dock reedbed, Margam Moors (two pairs) and probably bred at two other sites with birds present at a further 30 widespread localities from coastal salt marsh to upland plateaux. Large flocks comprised 50 south of Loughor Bridge on 21st Jan and 100 at Nitten Field on 6th Feb. At Oxwich 147 birds were trapped, including a male first ringed in July 2008 and re-trapped on 8th Aug 2015; CARMARTHEN: 8 pairs bred at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: 100 at Southwood Farm, near Newgale on 14th Oct and 25 at Castlemartin Corse on 1st Feb. 7 territories on Skokholm; CEREDIGION: Widely reported in the breeding season and 30 at Ynyslas on 4th Feb and at Cors Caron on 22nd Nov; BRECON: 40 on 28th Feb at Eligro NR at Llangorse, 60 there on 5th March and 40 on 17th March; 53 territorial males were located in the county, 20 of these at Llangorse Lake and elsewhere many using ffridd and marshy sites in the uplands; RADNOR: A big increase in breeding numbers after arrivals at many sites in April; MONTGOMERY: 50+ at Dolydd Hafren on 4th Jan, 100+ here on 15th Feb, 60+ on 15th March and 50+ on 22nd March. Over 20 were seen in May at this site; MEIRIONNYDD: At least 23 at the Pill, Aber Mawddach on 18th March. Singing males were found at 24 sites. On the county border with CAERNARFON 36 at

Prenteg on 6th Jan; CAERNARFON: Breeding confirmed near Llyn-y-gadair and at Morfa Aber and reported in the breeding season at 18 other sites; ANGLESEY: At least two pairs bred at Cemlyn and scattered records of males seen in the breeding season elsewhere; DENBIGH: Most of the 184 records were from coastal sites; Breeding activity recorded in 14 locations and confirmed, with adults carrying food, in two: Pensarn and Fenn's Moss; FLINT: 91 records. Breeding activity was recorded at 13 locations, but not confirmed at any.

LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla*

BRAS LLEIAF

(A) *Very rare visitor, on WRP list.*

One found feeding amongst Reed Buntings and other birds by feeders at Forest Farm NR, E GLAMORGAN on 5th Feb remained until 7th April. This was a new species for the recording area.

ESCAPES

BLACK SWAN *Cygnus atratus*

ALARCH DDU

No of BirdTrack records	26
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	11

GWENT: One was seen around Cwmbran on 6th and 9th Jan and what was presumably the same bird was then observed on a number of occasions between NWRU and Sluice Farm. It was last seen on 8th March; PEMBROKE: Three on the Cleddau from June - November; BRECON: After spending the 2014-15 winter in the Wye valley near Llowes, the bird that first appeared at Llangorse Lake in October 2013 returned to the lake on 4th February. It soon discovered the lake in February was not to its liking, last seen there on 9th, returning to the Wye valley. It was back at Llangorse again on 18th May, where it summered until at least 8th October. Finally, it was seen with Mute Swans on the River Wye above Glasbury on 21st Nov; FLINT: Many records of 1-2 with 3 seen at White Sands on 15th Nov during a WeBS count.

BAR-HEADED GOOSE *Anser indicus*

GWYDD BENRHESOG

No of BirdTrack records	42
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	16

An Asian species. GWENT: The usual long-staying bird was well-reported from GL through the year until 28th May, when it disappeared. It re-appeared on 26th Sep and then remained to the end of the year. The dates of its apparent 'migration' seem to correspond, year to year, so where does summer?; CARMARTHEN: One in a flock of Canada Geese at White Bridge, Carmarthen on 25th Jan; MEIRIONNYDD: One on Llyn Tegid on 21st Nov and 13th Dec

SNOW GOOSE *Chan caerulescens*

GWYDD YR EIRA

GWENT: A single bird was seen beside the River Usk, between Newbridge and Llanllowell, on 18th Jan; it had appeared at almost the same spot on 19th Jan in 2014; E. GLAMORGAN: There were 6 white morph birds at Kenfig's East Pool Fields on 18th Nov and one at Rhaslas Pond on 6th Dec; MONTGOMERY: At Upper Dyfi Estuary, 5 arrived just after dawn on 3rd Nov and remained until 20th Nov often associating with Canada and Greylag Geese; ANGLESEY: 3 at Llyn Traffwll on 3rd June and an adult with 3 hybrid offspring over Ty Croes on 27th July. One flew over Carmel Head on 9th May

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN

FLINT: A single was recorded at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh on 29th Aug.

CHILOE WIGEON *Anas sibilatrix*

CHWIWELL MAGELLAN

CARMARTHEN: There were 2 at Penclacwydd in January and February. A South American species.

MUSCOVY DUCK *Cairina moschata*

HWYADEN FWSG

BRECON: Five adults at Brecon Canal Basin on 18th Jan, three here on 19th March, and two on 25th July. Three reappeared during the Sept - Dec period, although on several dates just 1-2 there. Two on the Wye at Glasbury Bridge on 18th Oct; MEIRIONNYDD: One on Afon Mawddach on 1st Aug; DENBIGH: Singles or presence recorded in Jan, March, April and May. On 28th May there were 2 near Holt; FLINT: A single near Prestatyn on 21st May.

GOLDEN PHEASANT *Chrysolophus pictus*

FFESANT EURAID

E. GLAMORGAN: One by a house in Abercynon on 27th April.

REEVES'S PHEASANT *Syrnaticus reevesii*

FFESANT REEVES

BRECON: A male was seen in a Llangorse garden, close to a commercial game-rearing farm, on 29th April.

EAGLE OWL *Bubo bubo*

ERYRDYLLUAN EWROP

No of BirdTrack records	1
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	1

MEIRIONNYDD: Sightings from March onwards in the Llandderfel area. A bird escaped c 5 years ago from the area about a mile upstream in the Upper Dyfrdwy valley and initially was quite wary. The bird now in Llandderfel answers to people's calls and follows them around at dawn or dusk; CAERNARFON: One was reported at Llandudno on 23rd May.

HELMETED GUINEAFOWL *Numida meleagris*

IÂR GINI HELMOG

DENBIGH: On 2nd March, two were seen at Lleweni Hall, Bodfari; FLINT: During a BBS walk 4 were recorded near Buckley on 15th May.

INDIAN PEAFOWL *Pavo cristatus*

PAUN

DENBIGH: A total of 8 at Rhuthun on 13th May; FLINT: A single was recorded near Cilcain on 30th May.

HARRIS'S HAWK *Parabuteo unicinctus*

HEBOG HARRIS

No of BirdTrack records	1
% of BirdTrack lists	0
No of 1km squares	1

FLINT: One, with jesses, was seen at Connah's Quay NR on 13th Nov.

A REPORT ON BIRD RINGING IN WALES DURING 2015

PETER HOWLETT

Cardiff

INTRODUCTION

This is the 28th annual report on bird ringing in Wales and it is good to see that the efforts of all the ringers operating in Wales have resulted in similar totals to last year. The full grown total, at 52,963, is only just below the record of 54,389 set in 2014 and still in the order of 20% higher than any previous year. The nestling total of 20,174 improves on last year but is still just below the record of 20,484 set way back in 1994.

Once again the weather during the year was largely benign with no prolonged cold spells and reasonably settled weather during the breeding season. The year started off with around average temperatures but below average rainfall. A few stormy days in March shook things up a little bit but there was nothing prolonged. April was an exceptionally dry month across the country. May suffered from a few wet days which may have impacted on breeding birds. June was again mainly dry although there were one or two days of stormy weather, particularly at the start of the month and following on from the wet spells in May could also have had a negative impact on breeding birds. The summer months of July and August were characterised with below average temperatures and well below average amounts of sunshine but remaining largely dry. September followed on in a similar vein although not quite as cloudy. October saw a prolonged spell of easterly winds which resulted in very dry but cool conditions. The year ended on a very wet note with November and December being very mild but with well above average rainfall.

The British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Breeding Bird survey (BBS), Nest Record Scheme (NRS) and Constant Effort scheme (CES) all suggest there was a mix of winners and losers, perhaps depending on whether a particular species was on eggs during any very wet weather. This will be considered further below.

METHOD OF ENQUIRY

The annual totals are obtained electronically direct from the BTO and, as has been made clear before, although this electronic system makes for a very complete set of totals and avoids the need for ringers to send in their totals twice it does remove personal contact from the process. This means there is no indication from the totals as to whether ringers have increased or decreased their activity, or started/stopped projects.

It also means a complete list of ringers is not available for 2015 so the list of 'A' and 'C' ringers and groups is a mixture of those known through personal contact and what can be found on the web sites of various groups. Apologies to any ringer whose name does not make the list, the omission is not intentional and if there are any amendments please send them to the report editor for inclusion next year.

THE RINGING TOTALS

This is the second year in a row with a full grown total over 50,000, probably too early to draw any conclusions but maybe we are seeing a new norm being established due to the

increasing number of independent ringers operating. At 52,963 the total is 2.6% down on last year but still well over 20% up on the best totals in recent years. Despite all the new records set last year for a host of species the bar was pushed higher again this year. This is particularly the case with the huge amount of effort put into dazzling waders at night during the winter months and new highs were set for Golden Plover (122), Snipe (206), Jack Snipe (89), Woodcock (716) and Whimbrel (89). For Golden Plover, Snipe and Woodcock these totals account for about half of the total number of each species ringed in the UK in 2015 and for Whimbrel that rises to over 90% and gives some indication of the amount of effort being put in.

Analysis of the BBS and CES data by the BTO suggests that there was good survival over the 2014-15 winter for many resident species with an increase in abundance, although many then showed lower productivity in the breeding season. Short-distance migrants also fared well with general increases in abundance while long-distance migrants (trans-Saharan species) fared less well. For three species – Great Spotted Woodpecker, Blackcap and Chiffchaff – the indices show a huge increase in recent years (although less so between 2014-15) and this is reflected in the ringing totals for these species, all reaching new highs. For Blackcap the increase is huge, for most of the years this report has been published the annual total was around 600-800 this has now leapt to 2,884 in 2015. The increase is as extreme for Great Spotted Woodpecker (148) but not quite as extreme for Chiffchaff (2,854) though still well over 100%. The totals for many resident species probably also reflect the generally increased abundance with new records highs for Long-tailed Tit (836), Coal Tit (863), Nuthatch (160), Treecreeper (129), Wren (1,054) and Bullfinch (455). Two other resident species which generally have not fared well in Wales in recent years, Willow and Marsh Tit both had their best total since the early 1990s.

There are a few other totals worth highlighting. Twite, at 69, a new high and testimony to the effort put into monitoring this scarce species. The continued effort in studying Hawfinch in Wales has pushed the species to another new high, at 252 this amounts to 75% of the UK total. The Greenfinch total is the highest for six years, despite the ravages of *Trichomonosis* on the UK population and despite BBS showing a continued decline in Wales the Yellowhammer total is up to 150.

At 20,174 the nestling total is the second highest since 1988, surpassed only by the 20,484 ringed in 1994 and that down to the 4,637 Manx Shearwater ringed that year. These totals are generally more a reflection of effort and where they are largely made up of young ringed in nest boxes these may not necessarily match the trends shown in CES. For instance, the total for Nuthatch (336) is a new record and for Blue Tit (2,969) the second highest yet BBS and CES show declines on 2014 for both species. Other noteworthy totals include new highs for Kestrel (99), Barn Owl (388), Tawny Owl (58) and Nightjar (25). It is also pleasing to see that our breeding terns generally had a good season too with above average totals for all three species.

It wasn't a vintage year for rare/scarce species in 2015 although there are two species appearing for the first time – Grey Partridge and Swainson's Thrush (the latter only the seventh to have ever been ringed in the UK). Other notable species are Whooper Swan and Quail (only the 5th appearance in this report), Red Grouse (4th appearance) and Black

Grouse (3rd appearance). Other scarce or rare species ringed include Nightingale, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Yellow-browed Warbler (a record 18), Pallas's Warbler, Melodious Warbler and Black Redstart – good to see the latter breeding again this year.

RINGING PROJECTS

In recent years the BTO has been encouraging ringers to take up projects which target certain species or age classes (such as adults). Many ringers in Wales have taken up this challenge and there are now many Retrapping Adult for Survival (RAS) projects in operation. The use of numbered, plastic 'Darvic' rings on larger species has also increased in recent years and has diversified away from the traditional gull species with Golden Plover and Whimbrel now carrying such rings. So if you are out and about make sure you check birds for any colour rings.

As the size of satellite transmitters continues to decrease so the range of bird species which can be targeted increases. In 2015 more Cuckoo were added to the growing pool of birds equipped with satellite tags to track their movements, the results of which can be seen on the BTO's website.

PUBLICATIONS INVOLVING RINGING IN WALES

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Table 1: Birds ringed in Wales in 2014 & 2015

Species	2015		2014						
	FG	Pulli	FG	Pulli					
Mute Swan	10	42	38	23	Razorbill	50	280	73	299
Whooper Swan	10	—	—	—	Guillemot	42	726	40	616
Greylag Goose	9	—	16	—	Little Tern	1	52	—	14
Canada Goose	251	—	216	—	Sandwich Tern	39	—	2	—
Shelduck	20	—	10	—	Common Tern	1	701	1	538
Wigeon	—	—	25	—	Arctic Tern	30	562	50	526
Teal	10	—	3	—	Kittiwake	39	74	34	40
Mallard	5	1	17	1	Black-headed Gull	2	430	4	123
Eider	—	—	1	—	Less. Blk-backed Gull	198	413	257	488
Goosander	2	—	1	2	Herring Gull	61	558	31	552
Quail	1	—	—	—	Great Blk-backed Gull	2	181	25	104
Red Grouse	1	—	1	—	Stock Dove	8	26	7	32
Black Grouse	1	—	—	—	Woodpigeon	10	4	15	8
Grey Partridge	2	—	—	—	Collared Dove	6	7	9	2
Fulmar	3	1	4	—	Cuckoo	11	1	10	1
Manx Shearwater	2,072	601	2,862	438	Barn Owl	33	388	28	391
Storm Petrel	1,063	18	829	11	Little Owl	2	6	4	6
Gannet	51	—	53	—	Tawny Owl	12	58	14	45
Cormorant	1	333	—	316	Long-eared Owl	1	9	2	12
Shag	28	334	9	283	Short-eared Owl	1	5	2	4
Little Egret	—	41	—	4	Nightjar	71	25	66	21
Grey Heron	1	7	—	1	Swift	8	1	12	4
Little Grebe	—	—	3	—	Kingfisher	31	—	47	—
Honey-buzzard	—	2	—	1	Wryneck	2	—	2	—
Red Kite	—	13	—	15	Green Woodpecker	9	—	4	—
Hen Harrier	—	8	—	—	Gt Sp. Woodpecker	148	—	141	—
Goshawk	1	74	—	55	Kestrel	2	99	3	89
Sparrowhawk	26	2	35	1	Merlin	1	—	—	1
Buzzard	1	11	2	18	Hobby	—	10	—	7
Osprey	—	11	—	10	Peregrine	—	22	—	6
Water Rail	4	—	11	—	Great Grey Shrike	1	—	2	—
Moorhen	5	—	16	2	Chough	2	212	14	250
Coot	—	—	—	4	Magpie	19	17	36	9
Avocet	—	—	—	14	Jay	40	—	60	—
Oystercatcher	938	18	859	22	Jackdaw	34	78	51	41
Grey Plover	1	—	—	—	Rook	1	3	13	9
Golden Plover	122	3	114	1	Carion Crow	2	37	2	20
Ringed Plover	147	6	86	7	Carion/Hooded Crow	3	—	1	—
Little Ringed Plover	2	6	3	4	Raven	2	12	—	10
Lapwing	23	10	28	13	Goldcrest	2,596	2	1,476	—
Whimbrel	89	—	37	—	Firecrest	40	—	13	—
Curlew	173	2	160	2	Blue Tit	5,173	2,969	4,080	3,120
Black-tailed Godwit	—	—	1	—	Great Tit	1,878	1,425	1,747	1,846
Bar-tailed Godwit	1	—	7	—	Coal Tit	863	60	467	67
Turnstone	41	—	37	—	Willow Tit	43	—	25	—
Knot	38	—	22	—	Marsh Tit	45	13	26	16
Ruff	2	—	—	—	Bearded Tit	5	—	5	—
Curlew Sandpiper	—	—	4	—	Skylark	83	16	38	10
Sanderling	25	—	60	—	Sand Martin	74	3	422	1
Dunlin	2,064	—	624	—	Swallow	2,344	731	2,809	1,313
Purple Sandpiper	3	—	1	—	House Martin	24	3	60	23
Little Stint	1	—	—	—	Cetti's Warbler	108	—	121	—
Grey Phalarope	—	—	1	—	Long-tailed Tit	836	—	564	—
Common Sandpiper	21	6	28	—	Pallas's Warbler	1	—	—	—
Green Sandpiper	8	—	7	—	Yellow-br. Warbler	18	—	8	—
Greenshank	4	—	10	—	Wood Warbler	17	86	11	96
Redshank	526	—	336	—	Chiffchaff	2,854	52	2,739	12
Jack Snipe	89	—	75	—	Willow Warbler	2,637	36	2,805	31
Woodcock	716	—	710	—	Blackcap	2,884	5	2,345	7
Snipe	206	—	146	—	Garden Warbler	158	20	189	2
Great Snipe	—	—	1	—	Barred Warbler	—	—	1	—
Puffin	91	18	139	36	Lesser Whitethroat	47	—	42	—
Black Guillemot	1	4	—	—	Whitethroat	308	—	452	10

Dartford Warbler	2	—	3	—	Stonechat	72	26	69	36
Subalpine Warbler	—	—	1	—	Wheatear	128	29	90	16
Grasshopper Warbler	54	—	52	—	Duncock	739	13	868	18
Melodious Warbler	1	—	—	—	House Sparrow	403	114	724	103
Icterine Warbler	—	—	1	—	Tree Sparrow	—	37	2	65
Sedge Warbler	1,518	—	2,439	2	Yellow Wagtail	2	—	6	1
Blyth's Reed Warbler	—	—	1	—	Grey Wagtail	26	107	21	135
Marsh Warbler	—	—	1	—	Pied/White Wagtail	178	87	279	140
Reed Warbler	1,383	3	1,854	56	Tree Pipit	23	—	55	—
Nuthatch	160	336	158	259	Meadow Pipit	712	120	1,418	63
Treecreeper	129	22	112	7	Rock Pipit	118	—	130	5
Wren	1,034	46	1,009	43	Water Pipit	—	—	1	—
Starling	146	17	745	8	Brambling	23	—	290	—
Dipper	118	576	112	391	Chaffinch	1,850	18	1,941	41
Swainson's Thrush	1	—	—	—	Hawfinch	252	2	241	18
Ring Ouzel	6	6	7	4	Common Rosefinch	1	—	2	—
Blackbird	1,117	117	1,080	188	Bullfinch	455	2	438	3
Fieldfare	194	—	73	—	Greenfinch	1,364	7	976	4
Song Thrush	365	44	310	52	Linnet	137	1	107	16
Redwing	802	—	428	—	Twite	68	—	22	—
Mistle Thrush	16	—	12	3	Lesser Redpoll	579	—	1,148	1
Spotted Flycatcher	116	35	97	55	Common Redpoll	—	—	10	—
Robin	1,367	82	1,523	83	Redpoll Sp.	5	—	6	—
Nightingale	1	—	1	—	Goldfinch	2,419	7	2,557	28
Red-br. Flycatcher	2	—	3	—	Siskin	719	—	2,466	—
Pied Flycatcher	557	5,593	421	4,839	Snow Bunting	—	—	1	—
Black Redstart	6	5	1	—	Yellowhammer	150	3	117	2
Redstart	95	514	92	583	Reed Bunting	474	8	700	8
Whinchat	5	207	11	236	Grand Total	52,963	20,174	54,387	19,618

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SELECTED RINGING RECOVERIES

This is only a small selection of the hundreds of recoveries reported during the year and a complete report can be found on the BTO website (www.bto.org). It is always difficult deciding which to showcase in this report and the decision is usually based on whether the bird is unusually old, whether it has moved a long distance for the species, whether there is something odd about the recovery or if recoveries of a species are particularly rare. As always please remember to check birds for colour rings when out birding and also check any dead birds you come across. You can report a ringed bird to the BTO via their website.

The recoveries are arranged by species, with ringing details on the first line and recovery details on the second. The symbols and conventions used are outlined below; age is given according to the Euring code, the figures DO NOT represent years. Scientific names are given in the main systematic list.

Age when ringed

- 1 pullus (= nestling or chick)
- 2 fully grown, year of hatching unknown
- 3 hatched during calendar year of ringing
- 4 hatched before calendar year of ringing but exact year unknown
- 5 hatched during previous calendar year
- 6 hatched before previous calendar year but exact year unknown
- 7 definitely hatched 2 years before year of ringing
hatched more than 2 calendar years before year of ringing

Sex

M= male, F = female

Manner of recovery

- X found dead
- XF found freshly dead or dying
- XL found dead (not recent)
- + shot or intentionally killed by man
- +F shot or intentionally killed by man-fresh
- I found sick or injured-not released
- SR found sick or injured-released with 8 ring
- V alive and probably healthy, caught and released not by a ringer
- VV as V but sighting in field (includes colour mark records)
- R caught and released by ringer
- B as R - breeding
- RR as VV but by a ringer
- BB as RR – nesting
- U Unknown

Mandarin

FH32112	4M	18-09-2011	near Parkend, Gloucestershire
	R	23-07-2014	near Parkend, Gloucestershire
	X	28-01-2015	Monmouth, Monmouthshire
			11km WNW 3y 4m 10

A slightly unusual species to see in this report as there aren't too many Mandarin ringed in Britain and it's a fairly scarce bird in Wales.

Tufted Duck

FH40658	3	21-11-2010	Cosmeston Lakes, near Penarth, Glamorgan
	+F	12-05-2015	River Ob, nr Nyalinskoye, RUSSIA 61°19'N 69°13'E 4,560km ENE 4y 5m 21d

Many of our wintering wildfowl breed in Russia but this is the first time a Tufted Duck ringed in Wales has been recovered on its breeding grounds.

Manx Shearwater

EZ01580	1	29-08-2014	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	XF	08-11-2015	Pensacola, Alabama, USA 30°15'N 87°42'W 7,214km WSW 1y 2m 10d
FR08854	4	13-05-1980	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd
	XF	25-05-2015	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd 0km 35y 0m 12d
FR37617	4	26-06-1982	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	02-06-2009	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	30-05-2011	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	10-04-2013	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	03-06-2014	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	25-04-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	02-06-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire 0km 32y 11m 7d
FR49082	1	23-08-1983	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	XF	18-06-2015	The Ayres, Isle of Man 303km NNE 31y 9m 26d
FR50573	1	01-09-1984	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	XF	11-08-2015	Skokholm Island, Pembrokeshire 5km 30y 11m 10d
FR64392	1	31-08-1984	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd
	R	01-07-2008	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd
	R	07-04-2015	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd 0km 30y 7m 7d

Although tracking has shown that our Manx Shearwaters come north in spring via the Gulf of Mexico this is only the tenth time one has been recovered in the US. The other birds are a selection of the oldest birds recovered during the year.

Storm Petrel

2630849	4	11-08-2015	Farne Islands, Northumberland
	R	17-08-2015	Porth Iago, Llangwnnadi, Gwynedd 365km SW 0y 0m 6d
SE25260	4	23-07-2014	Banneg, le Conquet, FRANCE 48°25'N 5°0'W
FRP	R	02-07-2015	Wooltack Point, Marloes, Pembrokeshire 369km N 0y 11m 9d

The fifth French-ringed Storm Petrel to be caught in Wales and note the extremely rapid

movement of the bird from the Farne Islands.

Gannet

1304118	1	26-06-1991	Great Saltee Island, Wexford, EIRE
	XF	15-11-2015	Newgale Sands, Pembrokeshire
			106km ESE 24y 4m 20d

A good age for a Gannet – although sad to see it was recovered dead – but still some way off the 37 years for the oldest ringed bird.

Cormorant

5269298	1	28-06-2014	Puffin Island, Anglesey
	XF	02-02-2015	Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland
			301km NNE 0y 7m 5d
5191116	1	27-06-2003	Sovereign Islands, Cork, EIRE
	XF	02-08-2015	Marros Sands, Carmarthenshire
			267km E 12y 1m 6d
G3885	1	15-04-2015	Godin, Herm, CHANNEL ISLANDS 49°28'N 2°25'W
CIJ	VV	12-09-2015	Llyn Coed-Y-Dinas, Welshpool, Powys
			354km N 0y 4m 28d

It is unusual for birds fledged from Welsh colonies to move into the northern North Sea, so the Puffin Island bird moving to Berwick-upon-Tweed is particularly noteworthy. There have only been 27 recoveries of Channel Island-ringed Cormorants in the UK, so another unusual record.

Shag

1309355	4M	09-07-1992	Foula, Shetland
	R	11-05-2014	Llansantffraed, Llanon, Ceredigion
			884km S 21y 10m 2d

Shag are relatively sedentary so it's unusual for a bird to settle so far from its natal colony.

Grey Heron

K44085	1	20-04-2008	Duffel, Antwerp, BELGIUM 51°6'N 4°30'E
BLB	XF	21-01-2015	Cors Ddyga, Llangefni, Anglesey
			646km WNW 6y 9m 1d

It's easy to forget that in much of their range Grey Herons are highly migratory, this is only the second time a Belgian-ringed Grey Heron has been recovered in Wales.

Marsh Harrier

AJ60737	1F	07-06-2015	South East Norfolk
	VV	23-08-2015	nr Kenfig, Glamorgan 386km WSW 0y 2m 16d
	VV	06-11-2015	nr Beckley, Oxfordshire 209km WSW 0y 4m 30d

This isn't the first time a wing-tagged Marsh Harrier from Norfolk has made it all the way west to Wales and this bird seems to have particularly itchy feet. It also shows the value of identification marks which can be read in the field.

Avocet

FS88515	1	15-07-2013	la Barre de Monts, FRANCE 46°52'N 2°4'W
FRP	XF	20-05-2015	Goldcliff, Gwent 522km N 1y 10m 5d

This is the first time a French-ringed Avocet has been recovered in Wales and only the 25th for the UK as a whole.

Oystercatcher

FA23644	4	24-10-1987	Penmon, Anglesey
	R	26-10-2003	Penmon, Anglesey 16y 0m 2d
	R	16-10-2011	Penmon, Anglesey 23y 11m 22d
	XF	26-01-2015	near Fryars Bay, Beaumaris, Anglesey 3km 27y 3m 2d
FA34140	4	12-02-1989	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	R	12-09-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 26y 7m 0d
FA34198	4	12-02-1989	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	R	12-09-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 26y 7m 0d
FA34352	4	03-06-1989	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	R	21-10-1990	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 1y 4m 18d
	R	12-09-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 26y 3m 9d
FA59762	1	19-06-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	XL	16-10-2015	Escaselas, Coruna, SPAIN 42°55'N 9°15'W 1,024km SSW 0y 3m 27d
4107841	1	19-07-2011	Borg, Myrar, ICELAND 64°15'N 15°27'W
ISR	R	16-10-2015	Whiteford Sands, Gower 1,547km SSE 4y 2m 27d

Another good crop of elderly Oystercatchers this year, although still a long way off the 40 years of the oldest. It's unusual for British birds to move so far south and this is only the 26th time a British-ringed Oystercatcher has been recovered in Spain. Many of our wintering Oystercatchers breed in Iceland but there are still relatively few records of Icelandic-ringed birds recovered here.

Ringed Plover

NV69144	4	01-09-2012	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	R	17-11-2012	near Beaumaris, Anglesey 6km WNW 0y 2m 16d
	VV	20-09-2013	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 0km 1y 0m 19d
	VV	22-02-2014	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 0km 1y 5m 21d
	VV	01-05-2014	Sleipnesodden, NORWAY 66°43'N 13°13'E 1,768km NNE 1y 8m 0d
	VV	10-10-2014	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 0km 2y 1m 9d
	VV	17-05-2015	Sleipnesodden, NORWAY 66°43'N 13°13'E 1,768km NNE 2y 8m 16
NV69118	4	01-09-2012	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	VV	16-11-2014	Arel Island, MAURITANIA 19°52'N 16°30'W 3,862km SSW 2y 2m 15d
	R	15-08-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd 0km 2y 11m 1
NV69319	4	15-08-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	VV	26-09-2015	Peniche, PORTUGAL 39°21'N 9°22'W 1,598km SSW 0y 1m 11d
	VV	08-12-2015	Peniche, PORTUGAL 39°21'N 9°22'W 1,598km SSW 0y 3m 23d
NV69309	3	15-08-2015	Llanfairfechan, Gwynedd
	VV	01-10-2015	El Jadida, MOROCCO 33°15'N 8°31'W 2,252km S 0y 1m 16d

A fine series of recoveries showing the value of adding colour-rings to birds. There have only been five previous recoveries of British-ringed Ringed Plover in Mauritania and ten to Portugal.

Curlew

CT164236	1	07-06-2010	Nilsia, Kuopio, FINLAND 63°18'N 27°57'E
SFH	R	13-09-2015	Abergwyngregyn, near Bangor, Gwynedd 2,166km WSW 5y 3m 6d

Although Wales is an important wintering area for Finnish Curlew this is only the 10th occasion a Finnish-ringed bird has been recovered here.

Redshank

DK76178	3	19-02-2000	Rumney Estuary, Cardiff.
	R	13-12-2015	Saltmarsh nr Sluice Farm, Gwent 3km 15y 9m 24d
DK76221	4	11-03-2000	Rumney Estuary, Cardiff: 51°29'N 3°7'W (Cardiff)
	R	13-12-2015	Saltmarsh nr Sluice Farm, Gwent 3km 15y 9m 2d

Two elderly Redshank retrapped on the levels, the record for Redshank is 20 years.

Jack Snipe

NW57330	4	31-01-2014	Gwenlas, Llanbadarn Fynydd, Powys
	R	13-10-2015	Rigifa Farm, Cove, Aberdeen
			525km N 1y 8m 12d

This is the first time a Welsh-ringed Jack Snipe has been recovered more than 100km from the ringing site. Perhaps not surprising given their secretive nature.

Woodcock

EX28445	3	06-02-2013	Cil-Moor, Maenclochog, Pembrokeshire
	+F	27-04-2015	Slavgorod, BELARUS 53°25'N 31°3'E
			2,421km E 2y 2m 21d
FA03440	4	27-09-2010	Verabki, BELARUS 54°49'N 28°37'E
BYM	+F	26-01-2015	Brawdy, Pembrokeshire
			2,262km W 4y 3m 30d

The first bird is the first Welsh-ringed Woodcock to have been recovered in Belarus and FA03440 is only the third Belarus-ringed bird to be recovered here.

Great Skua

MA22574	1	01-08-2008	Handa, Sutherland, Highland
	XF	25-05-2015	New Quay, Ceredigion
			690km S 6y 9m 24d

This is only the 16th time a ringed Great Skua has been found in Wales.

Puffin

EJ09629	4	20-06-1988	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	RR	28-05-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire 26y 11m 8d
EJ09628	4	20-06-1988	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	RR	28-05-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire 26y 11m 8d

The two oldest birds reported during 2015, still some way off the 36 years set in 2012.

Sandwich Tern

DK38117	4	13-09-2015	Ynyslas, Borth, Ceredigion
	VV	21-12-2015	Walvis Bay, NAMIBIA 22°58'S 14°25'E
			8,578km SSE 0y 3m 8d

There have still been relatively few Sandwich Tern ringed in Wales (c.174) so it's good to see recoveries start to appear. This is the first Welsh-ringed bird to be seen in Namibia.

Kittiwake

EL48665	4	11-06-2009	Puffin Island, Anglesey
	RR	07-07-2012	Puffin Island, Anglesey 3y 0m 26d
	RR	31-05-2014	Puffin Island, Anglesey 4y 11m 20d
	+F	31-08-2014	Qeqertarsuaq, GREENLAND 64°7'N 51°48'W 2,982km WNW 5y 2m 20d

This bird may still not be old enough to breed as August would be very early for a breeding bird.

Black-headed Gull

EZ03979	1	21-06-2015	Shotton Steel Works: c. 53°13'N 3°2'W (Flintshire)
	VV	11-11-2015	San Ciprian Beach, SPAIN 43°40'N 7°25'W 1,107km SSW 0y 4m 21d

British reared Black-headed Gulls tend to mainly move south to France and Spain so this recovery fits that pattern. However, it's still only the fifth recovery of a Welsh-ringed youngster in Spain.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

GG19862	1	13-07-1985	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	RR	01-07-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire 29y 11m 18d
GG23987	1	10-07-1986	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire
	RR	06-11-2015	Praia de Mira, PORTUGAL 40°27'N 8°48'W 1,282km SSW 29y 3m 27d

The two oldest birds reported during 2015.

Great Black-backed Gull

HW65277	1	20-06-1991	Ynys Gwylan Islands, Gwynedd
	R	26-07-2015	Aberdaron, Gwynedd 4km 24y 1m 6d
MA06067	1	04-06-2006	Ynys Gwylan Islands, Gwynedd
	VV	02-11-2015	Praia Do Carneiro, PORTUGAL 41°7'N 8°40'W 1,329km SSW 9y 4m 29d
	VV	04-12-2015	Matosinhos, PORTUGAL 41°10'N 8°40'W 1,326km SSW 9y 6m 0d

There have only ever been two previous sightings of a British-ringed Great Black-backed Gull in Portugal. HW65277 is still going strong and only a couple of years shy of the record for this species.

Great Grey Shrike

LE46843	4	14-10-2014	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire
	R	04-03-2015	Cross Inn Forest, Llanon, Ceredigion
			312km WSW 0y 4m 18d

Given how scarce the species is in the UK this is an excellent record and only the third recovery over 100km for British ringing scheme.

Raven

HT67173	1	10-04-1998	Brynmawr, Blaenau Gwent
	XF	09-02-2015	Cwm Big, Blaenau Gwent
			8km S 16y 9m 30d

Getting to 16 years of age is good going for a Raven, the record is just short of 18, so a shame it died through injury.

Goldcrest

HED195	3M	12-10-2015	Grimston, East Riding of Yorkshire
	R	17-10-2015	Pwllcrochan, Pembrokeshire
			408km SW 0y 0m 5d
BNK064	3M	12-10-2015	Filey, North Yorkshire
	R	17-10-2015	Llangorse Lake, Powys
			324km SW 0y 0m 5d

Two extremely rapid movements here and amazing that the ringing and recovery dates are the same for both birds.

Swallow

AH4257	4M	21-04-2010	Jersey Bird Observatory, Jersey, Channel Islands
CIJ	V	10-10-2015	Nevern, Newport, Pembrokeshire
			360km NNW 5y 5m 19d

The fifth recovery of a Channel Island-ringed Swallow in Wales.

Chiffchaff

HKC158	4	04-05-2014	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd
	R	08-05-2014	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd 0y 0m 4d
	R	02-08-2015	Borkum, GERMANY 53°34'N 6°40'E
			771km E 1y 2m 29d
	R	07-08-2015	Borkum, GERMANY: 53°34'N 6°40'E
			771km E 1y 3m
EXY454	3	11-04-2015	Skokholm Island, Pembrokeshire
	XL	24-04-2015	Tharon, St Michel Chef, FRANCE 47°10'N 2°10'W
			552km SSE 0y 0m 13d

There have only been nine previous recoveries of British-ringed Chiffchaff in Germany,

perhaps a bit surprising given the easterly origin of many of the Chiffchaff which winter here. EXY454 had moved very quickly, a shame that it was found dead.

Blackcap

D038085	3F	25-11-2014	Pill Road, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire
	XF	(23-12-2015)	Les Nouettes, Guernsey, Channel Islands 308km SSE 1y 0m 28d
R425983	3	07-08-2015	Kenfig Pool, Glamorgan
	R	17-10-2015	Laguna de Negrillos, SPAIN 42°13'N 5°37'W 1,044km S 0y 2m 10d
V80044	3M	04-10-2015	Castricum, NETHERLANDS 52°31'N 4°36'E
NLA	R	22-11-2015	Plas Glan-Yr-Afon, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd 597km W 0y 1m 18d

The first recovery of a Welsh-ringed Blackcap in the Channel Islands and only the third record of a Dutch-ringed Blackcap recovered in Wales.

Sedge Warbler

Z661519	3	30-07-2015	Cors Ddyga, Llangefni, Anglesey
	R	11-08-2015	Sint Amands, BELGIUM 51°3'N 4°13'E 630km ESE 0y 0m 12d
1Y15972	4	07-05-2015	Getxo, Bilbao, SPAIN 43°19'N 2°58'W
ESA	R	13-05-2015	Teifi Marsh, Ceredigion 979km N 0y 0m 6d

Two very rapid overseas recoveries here, particularly the spring bird returning north.

Reed Warbler

13753175	4	23-08-2014	Mechelen, BELGIUM 51°1'N 4°27'E
BLB	R	15-05-2015	Cors Ddyga, Llangefni, Anglesey 646km WNW 0y 8m 22d

Only the second Belgian-ringed Reed Warbler recovered in Wales.

Ring Ouzel

LE61278	4M	30-06-2013	Glen Clunie, Aberdeenshire
	RR	06-04-2015	Skomer Island, Pembrokeshire 593km SSW 1y 9m 7d

This species doesn't feature in this report very often, a great recovery – thanks again to colour-rings.

Fieldfare

LH76974	4M	10-11-2014	Gwenlas, Llanbadarn Fynydd, Powys
	XF	22-06-2015	Insjon, SWEDEN 60°39'N 15°6'E
			1,448km NE 0y 7m 12d

Another species rarely featuring in this report and the first Swedish recovery for a Welsh-ringed bird.

Redwing

9X76031	3	31-10-2014	Oosthoven, BELGIUM 51°19'N 4°58'E
BLB	R	18-10-2015	Plas Glan-Yr-Afon, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd
			657km WNW 0y 11m 17d
JA665742	3	17-11-2014	Marck, FRANCE 50°58'N 1°55'E
FRP	R	17-11-2015	Ffynnon Gro, Llanfynydd, Carmarthenshire
			430km WNW 1y 0m 0d

Only the second recovery of a French-ringed Redwing in Wales.

Red-breasted Flycatcher

HJT745	3	06-10-2015	Skokholm Island, Pembrokeshire
	R	14-10-2015	Kilbaha, Loop Head, Clare
			328km WNW 0y 0m 8d

An excellent recovery of this scarce autumn visitor and only the second recovery of a British-ringed bird (the other moved to Norway). However, it has to be hoped it turned around and didn't carry on heading west!

Black Redstart

L321893	4M	05-12-2010	Aberystwyth, Ceredigion
	VV	14-01-2012	Aberystwyth, Ceredigion 1y 1m 9d
	VV	07-12-2015	Aberystwyth, Ceredigion 5y 0m 2d

There are very few recoveries for this species so perhaps not surprising that this sets a new longevity record.

House Sparrow

VP40888	3	03-06-2006	Bedwas, Caerphilly
	R	26-06-2011	Bedwas, Caerphilly 5y 0m 23d
	RR	15-11-2015	Bedwas, Caerphilly 9y 5m 12d

A very good age for a House Sparrow, the oldest ringed bird being 12 years old.

Rock Pipit

2602115	3	13-09-2008	Bardsey Island, Gwynedd
	RR	21-02-2015	Walney Island, Cumbria
			181km NE 6y 5m 8d

A very good movement for this often sedentary species and is, in fact, the first movement over 100km of a Welsh-ringed Rock Pipit.

Hawfinch

NW31557	4M	27-04-2007	Highmeadow Woods, Monmouthshire
	R	11-04-2009	Highmeadow Woods, Monmouthshire 1y 11m 15d
	R	26-05-2013	nr Tintern, Monmouthshire 15km S 6y 0m 29d
	RR	02-06-2015	Highmeadow Woods, Monmouthshire 8y 1m 6d
	R	18-06-2015	Highmeadow Woods, Monmouthshire 8y 1m 22d
NW66193	3F	13-04-2013	Dolgellau, Gwynedd
	RR	19-04-2013	Dolgellau, Gwynedd 0y 0m 6d
	XL	26-02-2015	Naresto, Arendal, NORWAY 58°31'N 8°55'E 1,028km NE 1y 10m 13d
NW66314	4M	22-03-2014	Bontnewydd, Dolgellau, Gwynedd
	R	13-04-2015	Lyngdal, NORWAY 58°4'N 7°4'E 905km NE 1y 0m 22d

With the huge amount of effort being put into studying Hawfinch in the last few years it was only a matter of time before a new longevity record was set, this will hopefully change on a regular basis in the future. There have only ever been three previous records of British-ringed birds moving abroad, one to Norway, one to Sweden and one recovered in the North Sea.

Twite

Z156826	3F	14-03-2015	Connah's Quay, Flintshire
	RR	05-05-2015	Morar, Highland 450km NNW 0y 1m 21d
Z156856	3F	18-03-2015	Connah's Quay, Flintshire
	R	20-03-2015	Connah's Quay, Flintshire 0y 0m 2d
	VV	20-06-2015	Black Mill Bay, Isle of Luing, Argyll and Bute 369km NNW 0y 3m 2d
Z156866	3M	18-03-2015	Connah's Quay, Flintshire
	RR	20-06-2015	Black Mill Bay, Isle of Luing, Argyll and Bute 369km NNW 0y 3m 2d
L586078	4M	24-09-2014	Machrihanish, Argyll and Bute
	R	18-03-2015	Connah's Quay, Flintshire 298km SE 0y 5m 22d

A relatively small group of ringers are putting a lot of effort into monitoring this species so it's good to see the recoveries mounting up.

Goldfinch

D678880	6M	08-04-2014	Cartref, Boncath, Pembrokeshire
	XF	13-04-2015	le Tetue, Ports, FRANCE 47°1'N 0°31'E 669km SSE 1y 0m 5d
Z069461	5M	20-06-2014	Abermule, Powys
	R	22-02-2015	Heusden-Zolder, BELGIUM 51°1'N 5°16'E 612km ESE 0y 8m 2d
12082223	4F	24-03-2011	Thirimont, Beaumont, BELGIUM 50°16'N 4°15'E
BLB	XF	31-01-2015	Narberth, Pembrokeshire 650km WNW 3y 10m 7d

This is the first recovery of a Welsh-ringed Goldfinch in Belgium and only the second going the other way. Movements to France and Spain are more to be expected.

Reed Bunting

V931950	3M	22-07-2008	Oxwich Marsh, Swansea
	R	10-03-2014	Oxwich Marsh, Swansea 5y 7m 16d
	R	08-08-2015	Oxwich Marsh, Swansea 7y 0m 17d

This bird is getting on a bit for a Reed Bunting, the oldest on record is just shy of 12 years old.

County and other bird reports 2015

This report is compiled from the county bird reports for 2015:

Gwent Bird Report 2015. Editor: John Coleman.

Available from Andrew Cormack, 29 Chestnut Drive, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire NP7 5JZ. Price £10 + £1.50 p and p. Cheques payable to the Gwent Ornithological Society.

Eastern Glamorgan Bird Report 2015. Editor: John Wilson.

Available from the Editor, 122 Westbourne Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 3HH. Price: £8.00 plus £1.54 postage. Cheques payable to Glamorgan Bird Club.

Gower Birds - the birds of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot 2015.

Contact Mark Hipkin 6 Holly Road Neath SA11 3PE.

Carmarthenshire Bird Report 2015. Editor: Rob Hunt.

Available from Wendell Thomas, 48 Glebe Road, Loughor, Swansea SA4 6QD Cheque for £7.28 (includes postage) payable to Carmarthenshire Bird Club.

Pembrokeshire Bird Report 2015. Editor: Jon Green

available online only: [Http://www.pembrokeshirebirdgroup.blogspot.co.uk/p/reports.html](http://www.pembrokeshirebirdgroup.blogspot.co.uk/p/reports.html)

Ceredigion Bird Report 2015. Editor: André Marsh

Available from André Marsh: Derwen 3 Bridge St, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ystrad Meurig, SY25 6EE. Cheque for £5 +£1.20 for p&p, payable to The Wildlife Trust for South and West Wales.

Breconshire Bird Report 2015. Editor: Andrew King

Available from Brecknock Wildlife Trust, Lion House, Bethel Square, Brecon, Powys LD3 7AY. Price £7.00 + £1.20 p&p. Cheques payable to 'Brecknock Wildlife Trust'. Back copies available at £1.50.

Montgomeryshire Bird Report 2015

Published online at <http://www.mbog.co.uk/downloads/montbirds2015.pdf>

Cambrian Bird Report 2015 (Anglesey, Caernarfon and Meirionnydd) Ed: John Small

Available from Geoff Gibbs, Fron Wen, Valley Road, Llanfairfechan, Conwy B.C. LL33 0ET. Price £7.20p including postage, cheque payable to Cambrian O.S.

North-East Wales Bird Report 2015 (Denbighshire and Flintshire). Editor: Ian Spence.

Available from Editor, 43 Blackbrook, Sychdyn, Mold CH7 6LT. Price £5.00 + £1.70 p&p.

Other Bird Reports

Bardsey's Wildlife 2015. Editor: Anthony John.

Available from: Jo Jones, 70 Newmarket Road, Burwell, Cambs, CB25 0AE. £10.00 + £2.50 p&p, cheque payable to "Bardsey Bird & Field Observatory"

The Wildlife Trust South & West Wales publishes *The Island Naturalist*, which is the Journal of the Friends of Skokholm and Skomer.

Skokholm Bird Observatory Annual Report 2015

Available to download at: <http://welshwildlife.org/skokholm-annual-report-2015-19mb/>

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